

South Leeds

Feb 1 [1852]

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Dear brother

Our school will keep two days
more. I ~~think~~ think Mr. Water will not get a
pina scobs. it's now very hard. I have the
headache. Howland has got almost well: he
is able to go all round the house & ~~is~~ ^{has} been on
side he would get well soon if he takes care of
himself. I cannot write a great deal, my
head feels very bad. our folks are eating
dinner. I will mark some letters

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P
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from D. W. Simons
of G. Howard

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Pulaski 9 Feb 52

Dear Cousin

Mr. Augustus died
last Evening at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 O'clk. after
a painful illness of two weeks. his
funeral will take place on Wednesday
at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10. Am. we should be pleased
to have you with us on that occasion
also Mr. Rundle if the permission of
Capt. T. Brewster can be obtained
for such purposes.

Yours much affected and
affectionate Uncle

Ward B. Howard

O. Oles Howard Esq.

October 2 1842

Dear General
I have just received your letter of the 1st inst. in relation to the purchase of the land for the purpose of building a new house for the use of the office. I have no objection to the purchase of the land, but I think it would be better to purchase a lot of land near the office, so that the new house could be built in a convenient location. I have no objection to the purchase of the land, but I think it would be better to purchase a lot of land near the office, so that the new house could be built in a convenient location.

Yours truly,
O. J. Johnson

of any particular party, but that it will be regarded
like any other law which serves to protect the community
against crime & violence, as an efficient agent for purging
our State, and ridding it of the pests which has so long
infected it. I feared at first that the measure was a little
premature - perhaps too violent. That the opposition against
it would hinder its execution & subvert the object aimed
at, but I am glad to see it is not so. I am the only cadet
that I have heard speak in favor of it. Mr. Brown is
deadly opposed to it; Sawtelle thinks the people of Maine are
acting the fool or are crazy. I love reform - as I stand
here among young men from all parts of the Union, each
praising his own State, my eye turns towards my own,
my ideas become in a measure generalized, and I look
upon Maine as a whole more than I used to & long for
her prosperity. I rejoice especially to see her take the lead in
any question of importance, especially in any moral, intellectual
or political reform. It seems nonsense often, 'gass' as the phrase
goes to hear a man professing attachment to his State - that is
it seems so to those who, with discontented spirits work on from day to
day & scarcely leave the limited space of their immediate neighbor-
hood. But let them go away where local questions are never
thought of, where the State is spoken of continually as a whole -
then local attachments are less felt, and local prejudices
give place to wider views, and unconsciously you will find that
your State at large has become the theme of your thoughts & to
some degree an object of your affections. It is said by the traveler
that he knows not that he ~~loves~~ his country, till he has once left
its bounds, till he can view it as a whole & at a distance. --

My sheet is full. Good night Write soon.

Your affectionate son
Chas. ~

West-Point N. Y. Feb 15th 1832.

Dear Mother,

C. C. Howard

I have received a letter of a
paper from Bonland since I have written him. But I believe
I have written him since I have written you. Therefore I will
address myself to my mother this time. Again, Bonland may
have changed his purposes & returned to college. I presume
~~it~~ makes little difference to you at home to whom I person-
ally address my letters, provided I do not neglect to write.
Since as I suppose this letters become nearly common property
among you. Taking this view of the case, one would think
I ought to take much pains with my letters. So I ought, but
I forget to do so. I begin with some such resolutions but
they are soon swallowed up in thoughts all engrossing, & lively
remembrances of home. I have fulfilled the sad duty of attending
the funeral of my cousin Augustus the past week. I received
a letter from Uncle Mort on Monday apprising me of his death,
and inviting me to his funeral which was to take place the
morning Wednesday. I got permission and started Wednes-
day morning immediately after Rev. Mr. Cropper crossing the river
on the ice. It was then very warm & raining hard, so that
the crossing was becoming rather dangerous, but we crossed.
Mr. Knudell & myself - in safety. I found when I reached
Uncle's that Augustus had been attacked with a violent
brain fever two weeks before his death; this fever threw him
into a delirium which scarcely left him till he breathed his
last a week ago this evening. He wrote me a very cheerful letter
just before he was taken ill, so that the news of his death came
very unexpectedly to me. He must have had a dreadful struggle

the last few days of his life. For his flesh was all wasted away, and he was so dreadfully emaciated that I could scarcely recognize him as the same young man whom I left a few weeks before so full of cheerfulness & hope. His father set much by him. I feel his death deeply. He scarcely left his bed-side during his last illness & took no rest. His sister misses him & weeps for him. Yet both feel reconciled to his death. "It is better - say they - than such a life, as he seemed doomed to lead." So also it seems to me; and I am in no wise certain that an early death for the human being prepared to die, is not always gain. But life is sweet & who in the freshness of youth is willing to part with it? Uncle has about half consented to go to Maine with me, when I go on furlough.

What troubles me most is Rowland's last letter. I cannot bear the idea that he should ~~lose~~ his place in his class. Yet I would not have him endanger his health. Health of course must be the first consideration. He must, however, try his hand at studying at home. I never made any great headway at it I know. But I think I could have studied at home, had a glass standing been at stake. But my constitution is of firmer build than his. It seems odd to me, but I never have had the least cough since I have been here. Last winter I went till January without a great ~~cough~~; & this winter I have worn, till within a very few days, a pair of shoes as thin as your own; no Cadet ever has any cough. This perhaps is owing to the atmosphere of the place in a measure. I am troubled a little of late with indigestion, but it is because I eat too much & too fast, and since there are no drifles, I have no exercise. Mr. Runtell &

myself, returned from Lakeside after the funeral the same night leaving there about eight o'clock in the evening. We came up in the cars, leaving them at the station house, just opposite the Dock. It was very dark but had ceased to rain. The ice had started in the river, and Cadets as we were, we did not have the hardihood to attempt to walk back the way we came, for in the morning in broad daylight we had trouble enough to keep out of the holes. So we walked down the river about two miles till we came to a place where the river was open: swung a lantern over our heads as a signal to the ferryman on the opposite shore. He answered us by a like demonstration. Rowed across in a few moments & took us back, safe & sound. Then we had two miles to walk in the mud nice & deep. I took the last I in a half hour was in my room, wet with perspiration & covered with mud; I had just time to change my clothes & get into bed when Taps' beat. So you see by a little perseverance I managed not to over-stay my leave this time. Runtell almost always over-stays his leaves I would think this time, if it had not been for me. Give my love to Rowland B. Rowland J. Charlie, Belle & father, all in a bunch. I am going to see the down fall of all uncle Ensign's rail-road projects. Remembe me to his & John's family when you meet them. --- I receive the Advertiser every Thursday. I tell father he could not have done me a greater favor than he did by subscribing ^{for} it for me. Now I can amuse myself over the results of the celebrated Liquor Law. Cadets are generally strenuously opposed to this law. I have faced my opinion of it entirely on its efficiency. If it really ~~subverses~~ ^{subverses} the cause of temperance, to the extent that it seems to I am its advocate. I hope however that political matters will not be made of it, that it will not be adopted as the child

must depend on the future care he has of himself the
deaths in town are Mr Isaac Gould, Mr William Moulton
Mr Luther Bamsdell, Mr Buggles Lulwester, Mrs C. Tupper
Mrs Beals at Mr Thomas Addingtons, those are what I can
recollect, in Leech

Tuesday. I shall be under
the necessity of closing my letter without covering
all the white paper, as I have company, you must try and
make as good sense of it as you can, your affectionate mother

O O Howard,

Chia Gilmore.

Leeds February 22nd 1852.

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My Dear Son,

This is the sabbath and rather snowy
we have just now concluded our sabbath dinner, and ~~now~~
is clearing away the dinner dishes while I am giving my time
to writing to my distant son, and in a sick room for Roland
is confined to his bed, with a fever he was seized with a violent
fever a few days since, it has some what abated and I am
hoping he will be about house in a few days. I was surprised
to hear of Margaret Howard's death, thinking he might live
a great many years, I knew so little of him and his worth
that I can reason coldly in regard to him, or his care, as
death is in the world and we must all meet him some day,
he might as well meet his cold embrace now as ^{at} any time, but
I am not wanting in sympathy for his bereaved father and
sister his childhood has past before them in brightness
and hope and all his former promise — is recorded
in ^{their} hearts, and they have seen them cut off when they
were looking for his truest hopes to be realized
but I hope he has joined his mother in a world of ever lasting bliss
I have been told that her interest and care for him were
intense, that even when her health was such such that she
could not sit up, she had her cot in her parlor and kept
him with her, from what I have been told of ^{his} the ~~strength~~
strength of character she possessed ^{of} ~~he~~ ^{thought} would be a fine young man
R. B. H. has regain'd his flesh, you would not judge from his looks
there was any lack in his health any more, ^{en} ~~with~~ from his
general appearance, he is cheerful I cannot advise him anyway.

he means a warm great coat, over his dress coat in our warm rooms, he reads the most of the time, goes out but little, but to think of his going back to those cold cold college rooms and confine ^{ing} himself to hard study is no use, in his present habits is not to be thought of he says his looks are so healthful he could not get excused from the slightest duty, sometimes I think if his habits could be changed, if he would rise early in the morning and bathe in cold water and walk swiftly, until he become warm with exercise, he might get a good circulation in that way, I have mentioned the subject to him and offered to rub him to get the right circulation, but he does not seem to have any energy about him, walking is out of the question, we ^{have} not had ten mornings in three months that an invalid could do that we have had a very uncomfortable winter in every respect, the day you went to Peekskill we had rain here all day, which settled the snow and made the traveling hard and slippery, but another snow storm has covered the ice deep under it, your grandmother is at your uncle Consigners stopping for some time she has not been here yet, she been there more than a month I don't think she is as well usual, and seems older and more child like than ever before, your aunt Anna is with Martha Jane at Portland enjoying herself very much, receiving visits and ~~and~~ visiting. Mother had a letter from her and M. G. one week since in which they mentioned some of the places she had visited one was Mrs Waite's I have heard lately that old Mr Waite had died this winter Lizzies grandfather but none of the particulars of his death

Anna mentioned Judge Wells and wife had called to see her, and Mrs Wells was much rejoiced at the return of her son Charles, your old acquaintance, and school fellow, said she took on him as one from the dead, she had never expected to see him again, had not heard from for three years until they heard from him in New York, said his health was not good, you did not say whether A. J. S. come up to West Point or not, when he was here he said he should go to see you, again Aunt Anna is delighted with his engagement in marriage to Mrs Brooks of Hollowell, I missed Doct. L. and this winter very much Doct. Gracey took charge of Bowling through his sickness and doct. Prescott of Thommowt has visiting Roland, E. he is practicing in this part of the town tell doct. L. if you write to him he is very much missed greatly, here we have a great deal of sickness in town this winter we have no Physician yet I suspect the Doct. has met with some cold weather this winter where he is, if we judge from the statements in the papers, Charlie is thinking of near field this spring but I have little courage to have him go from me, as there is very few days that I do not have nursing to do for him he is fond of improvement he is reading the history of England now, Ellie will talk about every Country in the four quarters of the globe, anybody that will talk with him, he has been in woods and chopped wood in this father two days, our wood pile is laying along by the wall as usual ready for spring chopping I do not allow myself to dwell on the future in Rowland Case there is not a doubt but his lungs are diseased, and

South Leeds Feb 23^d 52

Dear Brother

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I am in hopes to enclose this in a letter which Mother proposes to write you today. It is more trouble for her to write than for me and therefore I shall relieve her as much as possible. I had a time write all day as not (such as it is) were it not for lancing my wrist by the operation. My health has not improved at all since my last but has rather failed than otherwise. I went to Scotland last week and took considerable cold in riding home on a cold raw day. But my appetite is good and my strength middling for one of my obesity. My principle trouble is inflammation of my lungs - causing soreness of the Chest and a considerable cough mornings. I have on now two or three plasters as Counter-irritants and am in hope to experience some relief therefrom. It is now ~~one~~ weeks since the tem commenced and I have not studied any yet. The Pa told me it would be better to make up half a Year than to study much in the present state of my health and the weather. Mother rec yours by last night's mail and as you conjectured it has passed through the whole reading circle. For my cousin, deceased. I cannot feel other wise under the circumstances than an

entire stranger. Mother feels otherwise than
seen and conversed with him. I am glad
that you take an interest in the Maine
It is some thing that every Maine man should
be proud to own and vindicate. Its past
has placed our State in an enviable position
and gives consistency and truth to her motto
Dirigo, which heretofore I have thought an
presumptuous for the cold north East corner
of Down East, to assume. I think that our
beloved State is destined to some thing the
same position towards ~~the rest of the~~ ^{the} ~~rest of the~~
rest of the States that the little Republic
of San Marino bears to the States of Italy.
Situating on cold, inhospitable, mountains,
sparsely populated, with few resources and
wealth. Of no political importance. It has
furnished an example to the world of
a people free, - but firm and decided in
their government. Catholic, but consistent
and upright in their religion and morals
and amid the changes, revolutions and con-
volutions of a thousand years, as a State
it has constantly maintained its independence
and integrity - I look upon Maine as a State
not destined to lead in wealth, political
importance and influence. But in social
and moral reform. She is already a noble champion
and her hardy men and women have volun-
tarily raised her standard and stand for - Dirigo!

so much for our Pine tree mother, If it was requisite
for you to reside abroad, in order to inspire you
with 'amor patriae' I am glad that event has
taken place. But if you love Main. defend
her highest and almost her first honor among
her sisters. The Fug Slave Law. What it has done for
her you have seen, what it will do for her,
Henry's way of judging is 'The future by the past'.
N. H. is agitating the passage of the Law. Mass
will pass it. R. I. has passed it. N. G. must
pass it. She may not this year but 200,000
petitioners with Horace at their head will
not be driven, coerced nor bought, although
without doubt: patriotic Distillers. Sellers
Reporters &c are contributing strongly for
the latter truly republican measure.
The most interesting thing to the people of
Mass at present is the division of their
own. Almost every man has his own hypothesis
which he of course pertinaciously maintains
as the best. The most practicable, feasible
and popular method that I have heard of,
to cut each individual (is that a ball?)
out into a separate town, I think that
the antagonistical interests would in that
way be reconciled. All of this difficulty arose
upon the her celebrated Loan question
which if passed, the dear people imagined

would cause great revolutions in stocks
and place an almost fabulous amount of
money in the hands of Capitalists.

Whereas the simple question was whether
the town would become responsible for
the interest on \$15000 worth of RR Bonds,
if the business of the Road did not pay
that much. And so we have had
Down meetings, and speeches more
remarkable from their energy than
their eloquence. I attended one of the
afore said meetings and the way
Turner Gould barn & Co spread their betes
was a caution to amateurs. The eloquent
Lloyd took the American Eagle for
his theme and standing with his
head within half an inch of the platform
grazing at the mouth, red from over-
excitement if he did not discourse sweet-
music then I know nothing of the
nature of afore said bird. Of Roland's
Richard's Mother will probably write you,
William and Maria were well when I
was at H. Halstead has become a city.
It has something like 2500 inhabitants.
The snow is about three feet deep. Father
has finished getting up his wood. I think
I will write to Lizzie today. I shall expect
a letter from you on Tuesday. Rowland