

P.S. Roseoc sends his ~~love~~ to you] (Harris-Hill Sept 4th 1852)

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Dear Brother; I concluded that by this time you would like to hear from me, as you had not, since you left me at the door at home, and I thought too that I would like very much to hear from you; and so I take my pen. You see by the date that I am not at home and alone where I am, I came here the day after you left which you know was Saturday. Mr Carpenter was coming up here and Rowland rode with him, they started from our house about one o'clock and I about three. After I had said goodbye to all I seated myself in the wrygon and taking the reins started the old White for she was the horse ^{with} which I came. There was nothing that happened in my ride which would be worth relating. I called at Arsis as I came and found that he was more comfortable that day than he had been; but I have not heard from him since. Well I came from Arsis up on to the Hill and found that I had reached here before Mr Carpenter and Rowland. I stayed at the Mission House and had my horse put up and took supper myself. I found that there was but one chamber to room, and that was with Mr Caton's boy (the man who keeps the boarding house) in a very small room with two very small windows the defects of the room I did not care so much about as the fellow I was to have for a chamber. He and I never had any trouble but about all he says is non sense; Still I did not make up my mind what to do untill Rowland came which was in a little while, by the way the reason why he did not get here first was because he went by the way of Mr Barrow's and stayed there some time then he came to Arsis and ate supper. Well when he came

a piece about the Maine Liqueur ^{but} I shall have to hand it in before it won't have time to go to West Point and back. I shall send one in my next letter. I should like to have you name a subject for me in your next letter. for sometimes I think up a subject to write about then after I have written a little I think it is not a good subject - all wish that I had taken some other one. Oh! I almost forgot to tell write you about my taking lessons on the Piano. - Mr Carpenter stood at Mr Wheelock's while he was on the Hill. he made several calls on me while here and also went with me up to Mr Wheelock's and gave me an introduction to Miss W. the Lady who gives lessons on the Piano, and I agreed to take half a course of lessons which is twelve. It will cost me three dollars for taking lessons and one dollar for practicing one hour every day by myself. Write as soon as you get this for I do wish to hear from you please write about your journey on to West Point - Oh! Oh! I have grown old very fast with in a few days. I am now fourteen and a few days ago I was but thirteen. for my birthday was a week ago to day. Most boys wish to be or wish they were men but I do not. My health has been quite good since I came to here, only I have got a cold that makes me cough considerably. I have had one letter from home since I have been here and I answered that last Sunday. I am now going up to the P.O. to see if there is not one there now Brother Charles. (To Oliver, Ohio, Howard)

I send much love to you. Oh! I have written many letters and tell me of them. Oh!

heard I walked up to Mr Jersey's and he told us that there was a chance at Mr Robinson's to board, which is opposite to the Seminary on the other side of the road but when we went there we found that that place had been engaged that afternoon, which Mr Jersey did not know of, but as I could room with Roscoe Jennings if I boarded there I wanted to board there very much. Rowland told them this and they said that I might come in and stay until the fellow came who had engaged it, and so I did. Rowland went back in time to go to meeting down to Leeds the next morning. I remained at Mr Robinson's and the fellow came and they told him that I would like to stay very much, and so he went and got boarded at the Mansion. So you see I remained at Mr Robinson's where I now am up in a little chamber in the N. West part of the house, which is my room. I will now give you a description of it. It has two rather small windows in it which face the West but has no best window pan which reason it is rather dark here in the morning. There are two good closets attached to it which are convenient. ~~We~~ ^{There} are for furniture a bed which ^{is} ~~is~~ ^{is} strong and not quite so hard on the floor a table two chairs a washstand and a looking glass, there is one piece of furniture more that I have not mentioned and one that we do not need very much, ^{namely} ~~is~~ a chimney which passes from the fire down below in the kitchen up through here, and which with the sun in the afternoon makes it very hot and rather uncomfortable staying here, but it will be (that is the heat) quite acceptable by & by when the weather gets to be a little cooler.

I need not say any thing about my chum Roscoe for you know him as well as I do. I like him very much for a roommate. — You know I spoke to you about my studies, I study the same that I spoke to you about (Viss Latin Algebra Arithmetic and Philosophy accepting the best which I could not study because it came the same time as my Latin. *Latinum valde multum amo.* I meant that sentence for I love Latin very much ^{you find that} it is translated right you will see that I have learned a little about it. I find no trouble in keeping up with my class sit here in my Latin or Algebra. Roscoe studies Latin ~~and nothing~~ and nothing else, he is in the class that is over in the last part of the book & in my class the Book that we use is McClintock & Brooks First Book in Latin. Roscoe and I have some sport in looking over our ~~and~~ comparing our lessons often we have got them out for we do not get them out together he gets his out in the evening and I mine immediately after dinner. when we compare we keep account of the mistakes of each ~~and~~ were comparing the lesson for Monday today and found that he made 14 mistakes and I 6. — I bought me a blank book the other day and am going to keep a journal I began to write in it Sept. 1st and have written a page every day since I began and intend to the whole term, I think it will help me in writing composition. I don't know as I shall send a piece of composition in this letter as we ~~are~~ talking about. I have written

O'Connor

West Point N.Y. Sept. 8-52

Dear Mother.

I thought perhaps you might be looking for a letter from me by next Saturday's mail, and if this goes as quick as it ought you will not be disappointed. I received a letter from Charley today, a good long one of four pages. He says he is doing finely in his studies, likes Latin & likes his room-mate. The last news I heard from you was contained in Rowland's letter written at Portland. I had mailed one to him just before I received his. My health is now good and I attend to all duties both military & Academic. My afflictions are finally suspended, only once in a while my Partridge box, or the belt-buttons on my shirt will remind me of the tender places. I was released from confinement Monday and awarded three extra hours of Sunday guard duty. Perhaps you wish to know why I did not get here before two o'clock. I was under the impression that I must be here before two - but I wished to stay away as long as I could consistently with my study; so I went & asked Knudell. - He said that if I arrived here any time before four, it would answer all purposes & nothing would be said. He was mistaken, but I did not say anything of what he told me, merely stating, where I was & how I was delayed. It does not amount to much, but I like to have

a portion of each Sabbath to myself; for reading, writing, reflection &c; but seeing I was a little careless in the performance of my duty, I will cheerfully walk them out. Sunday tours are more than any others - for the guard is on all day; one relief walks while the other two go to Church; I shall be on the relief that stays away from Church unless I exchange with some one. The before-mentioned is the only report I have had since my return; and I am now getting on finely in every respect. My room-mate suits me well - he is good-hearted - very neat - neither swears, ~~drinks~~ ^{or smokes}, and is not licentious, which I have learned to be the especial prerequisites of a room-mate for me. I have not used tobacco in any way nor shape since I have been in barracks & have no inclination to do so. It is a great trouble to get tobacco here if one wishes to, & causes a great deal of trouble & inconvenience after it is got; so I consider it the part of a wise man to forego the use of it. (Thursday) If I do not close this now you will not get it Saturday. Write to me when you can - I am always delighted to hear from you - Give my love to all -

Your affectionate Son

A. C. Howard

when we used to room together in the old barracks. (Sunday noon)
I have just returned from Church. We had a sermon on parental
indulgence & filial obedience - or rather filial disobedience
and its results. The text was, Absalom! Oh Absalom, my son
Absalom, Would to God I had died for thee! Oh! Absalom, my son
my son! It was a good subject & we had an excellent
discourse; and especially to me was it deeply interesting. -
One of his closing remarks was something as follows: - "The young
man who will, by his ungrateful conduct, pierce his father's heart
with anguish, or fill with tears the eyes of the mother who has
watched over him with tender affection & solicitude from infancy,
will defy all the bad examples that the dissolute can set him
to ruin him; for he is already ruined". - A week ago to day
I finished the reading of the "Wide Wide World". It is a beautiful
book. I want you to read it if you have not. I never read
a book more interesting; where the main object seemed
to be the inculcation of Christian principles. - The author
lives just over the river; her real name is Warner. - Give
my love to all. I presume Delli is still a good boy &
helping his father. Mr Stevens whose name is on the register
as found deficient, procured a reexamination, but it
did not avail him anything. By his course, heretofore
he had prejudiced the Academic board against him.
He has now spent three years in College & three
years at West-Point & is if anything worse off
than when he started. Has Lizzie written to you - She
promised me some time since that she intended to.
I shall expect a letter before this reaches you. Remember
me to all my friends in Leeds - Your affectionate son
O. Howard

O. Howard

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Sept 12/52

West Point N. Y. Sept 12th 1852

My dear mother,

I have taken my pen this
morning to make you amends if possible for writing you so
short a letter. I had not time then to finish filling up my
sheet; and thinking that you would rather receive a short
letter than none at all, I mailed what I had written. I
have received a long letter from Charlie and answered it by
one of equal length. He appears much engaged in his studies,
says he likes Latin very much & enjoys taking lessons
on the piano. He proposes sending me his compositions
for me to make criticisms & corrections after which I am
to send them back. He also wishes me to correct his letters
& tell him of his mistakes. I could not find one in his long
letter of four pages closely written. I think this is better
than I do myself. For I seldom ever 're-read' one of my
letters without finding several mistakes of one kind &
another. I received too, a long letter yesterday from Lizzie, and
it was a beautiful letter; so you see I have no reason to
complain of my lot. You all are so mindful of my comfort,
and my happiness. It makes the time pass very pleasantly
and seem very short, when I can get a good many letters
from home & from Portland. They promote reflection
and give me something to do in my leisure moments, to
answer them. They make you seem nearer to me & "soften
the pain of absence". They make me forget petty grievances

by making me forget the present & myself. While I am indulging in past reminiscences, and in dreams of the future. — Perhaps you fancy by what you saw of me at home & by what you have known of my faults heretofore, that I am exceedingly irritable; but I am not. I now never suffer myself to get impatient; never in the "recitation" room, never in my room, or at any other time let what will happen. Some time ago I discovered that this fault, for which I seemed to have a predisposition, was gradually growing upon me, and subtracting fearfully from my quantum of happiness; and I resolved to exert myself to overcome it. Now when I feel a little vexed, when any duty seems irksome, I stop still, & think — think it will soon be over, put a bright face on the matter — and then I find both the task & my heart are light. Silas Lee was up to see me Thursday and brought with him a man from Boston — a Capt McKim — who was very much interested in military affairs, having been Captain of an independent company in Boston, the one to which Silas belonged when there. They stopped all day till after parade in the evening; so that I got excused from all duty from 9 1/2 o'clock, after my morning recitation, till 8 o'clock in the evening. I went to see Warren last evening between supper & "call to quarters", a time of about three quarters of an hour. I did not see him but a very short time. He looked hale & hearty and said he was getting on well. He says he shall not be able to go home; since it always costs him over a hundred dollars, let him be as prudent as he may. He did not say that this was his only

reason for not going, but I fancied it was the principal one because he mentioned the cost. He says his Uncle Jerry is coming to visit him in a few days & will make me (a) call. Mr Lee & I now sometimes converse about the lesson. It is much better than to be as we were last year. I am if anything too ready to forgive an injury to suit the notions of military men, but it is right to do so, and my impulses prompt me to forgive a man, so soon as he is disposed to treat me well. I do not wish to be on speaking terms with Mr Abbott. He never has conducted himself as I fancy a real — whole souled man should; and I would rather hope him keep his own side of the path. Tell Rowland Bailey I have not yet learned what he is intending to do with himself — ~~his~~ full. I want him to "spruce up a little" and put a little energy & heart into study if he undertakes it this fall. If he could only invest an equal amount of attention and interest in his text books, that he ever exhibits in the subjects of Temperance & politics, who knows what a scholar he might make! I would not however for the world persuade him to take any course that would have a bad effect upon his health, or do him a permanent injury. I like my room-mate very much. He appears always very kind-hearted, and has none of those defects which are so hard for me to put up with. I never have, however, had any difficulty of any amount with a room-mate in my room: — but I now anticipate more pleasure in my constant associations. Browne rooms with Lagelle. I do not think they will get on very well: at least they did not formerly; but Lagelle is a friend of Browne's & I always thought he hated him for Browne was always "rectifying" him

few weeks - 3 or 4 say. I went up to see
Perry last week and stayed four days with
him. He has got so as to walk and ride
out and is gaining fast. His arm will be
probably stiff partially. His eyes are no better.
God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb but
seemingly he has not tempered it to him.
No Governor elected here by the people.
Legislature - democratic though there is a
large Whig gain. The Main Law so far
so accounts have come in triumphantly
sustained. Hurrah!

Write me soon. Love to North

Turner Bridge - in haste
as ever your friend
Peleg S. Perley

Portland Sept. 16th 1852

Dear Howard

I have been gently reminded to night
that I ought to write you a letter and one
reason set forth among others was that I am
the elder. Well I have no particular objection
to writing to you "on the contrary" I like to write
to you always whenever the spirit moves - not
that I always do when the spirit moves because
laziness irremediable, incorrigible steps in
and hinders me. But I am in for one
this eve; in time for mailing too and it is
now 7^{3/4} so I must haste and to proceed at
once in medias res I thank you for writing
so cheerily and kindly in my album.

It smacks of the olden, hopeful college days
and shows that your memory of them has
not grown dim nor your love for them
and me grown cold. One more I thank
from my heart for so kind a remembrance.

I don't know but an apology is due from
me for my rudeness at Picnic and at any
rate you will grant one for neglect of you
by me anywhere or at any time is and even
has been however many times I may have been
guilty of it, unintentional. It really seems to me

that I hardly need to make such a declaration to you but I find by sad experience that one must not take too much for granted even in the case of one's most intimate and best friends. Why, till recently, I should no more have thought of your taking notice of an odd fit or strange conduct in me, to interpret it to my disadvantage than my own folks. You should have known me better. "Et tu Brute". However, Jewett who I thought knew and whom I sincerely prized, as a friend, has taken offence at my mode of treating him so that I begin to think I may appear selfish, cold, distant, moody and uncommunicative and unsympathizing when I am not so I must be on my guard perforce and be polite and pay attention to my friends and acquaintances and chat and appear cheerful and they will not then think I am careless of them. This is not irony - it is a truth and to me almost a new-discovered one though as old as Creation.

I don't know Chum but I am indifferent and obnoxious to the charge of misanthropic selfishness. I don't feel so but one can't compare his own feelings with those of others for he can't know what others are. I don't know that I love any whom I call my friends as

they love me - sometimes I fear I love them too little and then again too much, but my love for them varies not such as it is it is constant and trusting. Jewett's letter giving me the cold shoulder as it looks to me, made me feel bad. I could have cried over it. But sudden ties are not helped by tears. They lie too deep for that. I can't tell I am sure what his motive was in writing me as he did - whether he was put out because I made so short a stay with him or whether he merely put that forward in lieu of a better pretext for getting rid of a friend.

I was at Com. and it was a great time Adams, Bulfinch, Gordon, Goodwin, Atherton, Ingraham, Perley, Jackson, Snell, Smith, MacArthur of our class were then all in good health and spirits. Hodgman is the father of a boy. Ingraham is said to have lost his woman - now morte. Annie I have not seen since about a week before we went up country in Aug. You remember what you told me in our bedroom after the tip-out, when I had been talking with E. and you called me back? It has not come yet.

Oh will it ever! Yes I hope so. Liz is writing a note and she will tell you about a thousand things that I can't now.

I think I shall go home Sat. and stay a

gone down to Leeds to day, day I expect to have all the news when he gets back Monday he had a chance to ride over to North Turner bridge & so he thought he would go home it being but 2 1/2 miles from there home, he wished to see his mother who has been so very sick you know, the last he heard from her was at camp meeting he heard that she was gaining slowly but hadn't then had her clothes on - she also has a cousin sick at his fathers with the Typhoid fever, her name is Harriet Frost perhaps you know her she is Porter Frosts daughter. I thought of going home last night or going down to Orsas & staying all night and then going home this morning, and I fairly made up my mind to go & and changed my clothes, but I went in to prayers and to church & while in there made up my mind not to go, I thought it over in my mind, thinks I they will think I am homesick if I go home tonight when it has been but a week since I saw them, but not so much that, that made me change my mind but I thought I might wish to go home again before the term and another thing I did not want to leave my studies, ^{one} reason I wanted to go home was to get some winter clothes for I have been quite in need of them this first week. It has been very cold until today but it is quite warm and pleasant this afternoon - I have about as much as I can do to attend to my studies, I have no time to play or write or hardly any thing else any day but Saturday, & two hours of that are taken up in playing on the piano. We have got over to transposition in my Algebra about through fractions in Arithmetic in Latin we have got to the 62 page, I like Latin much, I have not written any composition to send us I promised, but think I must next time I have done twice since I came, I have not written this very well but I hope you will let the quantity

which I have written out ballance the Pennsylvania P.O. Exence such a long letter's time
please correct my mistakes and tell them right. Hent's Hill. Sept 18th 1852.
if there is any after I am corrected all I can find, as I presume
^{my next}
Dear brother; I received with joy a letter from you last Tuesday. I came from my recitation in Latin just after the mail arrived, came over to the house to bring my book before I went to the P.O. & a fellow said that he had brought me a letter which was up stairs in my room - I was not long in finding it then I tell you, nor did I stop until I had read it over twice. It seemed quite short but then when I came to look at it I saw that it was all over one sheet. - The account of your journey was quite interesting to me. I had not heard from you at all since you left the depot at Greene, but now I heard all of the events of your journey as far as N.Y. city. - The day that you wrote your letter week ago last Thursday I went to Camp meeting. Rose & I and a fellow by the name of Butler started immediately after breakfast towards the camp making a distance of six miles ~~from home~~. We started about seven and arrived there a little before nine. They were having a prayer meeting when I got there. (view was considerable shouting &c) I went to the Leeds tent and found Mary F. Lothrop, who told me that Rowland was there, I then went in pursuit of him soon a fellow told me that he had seen Rowland & that he was looking after me; well I soon found him & was very glad to do so. he told me that the folks were all well. which was my first eager inquiry. I kept with Rowland and we soon found Rodolphus Leadbetter. he had been at home but a few days and was soon going back I believe although I am not certain. brought Lucia up to camp meeting that morning. Rowland & I did not stop long with Rodolphus, but

walked on, we soon met Silas Bates who said he came up with the coffin. Howland came up with Henry Brewster early in the morning & did not know that he was coming. Well we walked on and in a little while found Roland, A., and Arin Bates. ^{Arin} who had just got home from Mass and was soon going back. I had not seen him for about a year I believe you did not see him with us here, did you? He looked ruddy & healthful. I saw George Jones & Lucie in dinner there & a great many others with whom I was acquainted. John, H. & Helen were there Helen was full of her fancies as ever. Laura, H. was also there. She took dinner in Leeds tent with Howland & ^{me} J. Just as dark I saw her walking with a gentleman by the name of Webster who has been a kind of assistant engineer to Mr Reed on our new Rail Road in the Andover region. George Lathrop & Haldish assisted in furnishing the Leeds tent and he invited us to take dinner with him which as I have said we did. My dinner tasted good after walking so far. Still you - Haldish's health she said was about as good as it had been for the summer accepting that she was considerably bent out of the way for she was not used to so much exertion. She told me that they were about to move away from Leeds and were going to Lincolnton Falls to live; said they had engaged a house there & should move soon. I forgot to mention that in the forenoon we heard a sermon by a Mr. Foster I believe but I am not sure now what his name was. We had a sermon from Mr. Primer in the afternoon our minister at Kent's Hill. Howland said he did not like it very well. he is a young man about 25 or 26 I should think. He uses a great many words but fewer thoughts sometimes. A week or two ago he began a sermon and preached awhile on (I don't exactly remember the words of the text) something about a great river or a river flowing out to the

the great city - (It was taken from some part of the Bible I don't remember where) Well he went on to compare this to the Christian people for a while. but all at once stopped and began to speak on the Temperance & Politics of this state and to urge the people to vote for Holmes & Hubbard I don't know hardly which but I think it was Holmes, after he had spoken awhile on that subject he changed back again to his sermon. They said that he preached the sermon down to North Weymouth. But it will not do for me to criticize yet. But to get back to the camp ground. Howland was full of politics it being but a little time before election. about every man that he met he would if he had a chance try and persuade him to vote for Crossby. I stayed with Howland until he left which was about sunset or a little before. Mother sent me up a bundle in which was a shirt some writing ^{papers} and some envelopes, how good mother is, she is always caring for me. I staid until the close of the evening sermon which was a little after ten o'clock and then walked home with Rose and mother. I got home at twelve o'clock. Since I began my letter I have eaten my dinner and walked up to the P.C. but found no letter. I have got to go up to Miss Whilocks to take a lesson on the piano now & will finish when I get back. I have been gone from my letter two hours; I went up there about two o'clock she had callers then and so I waited. and I have been playing about an hour steady which makes me quite tired to sit so still and staid for so long. I suppose our folks have written to you that Francis Lathrop has lost two of his children. I suppose you hear as much news from Leeds as I do about. for I have not heard from them since camp meeting. Oh yes I have Charles Hutchins went down last Saturday but did not hear from our folks. Rose has

You make a few mistakes in your list, I do not expect them now - be careful.

legs never flag or hesitate to perform their circular paths unless broken. Preached Beech Hill in the evening - found Uncle & Cousin Elizabeth well, living in the same old place & by themselves. Uncle Har is a Democrat, & goes into politics with his whole heart & soul. - Our father had some cousins at (Crestburg or) Crestburg three Old Maids, they are now, by the name of Philips. Took my cousin Elizabeth & carried her to visit them on Friday - and had a very fine time. We had to pass by West Point on our way, on the opposite side of the river - My eyes did not feast upon the grand scenery with the same degree of pleasure - that they did two years before when I approached this place. - That night - after having, seen my elderly cousins, eaten of their nice fruit - and seen their pretty girls, for they keep a boarding school - we returned to Beech Hill - and like a foolish boy I dozed there till the afternoon of the next day. I ought to have been there dressed in Cadet clothes, ready to report at 2 o'clock - I was one hour & a half too late - for which I have served one weeks confinement - to my room - performed one Camp tour of Guard duty & one Sunday tour - & have still two more Sundays - with 10 demerit & all that I may get in addition, while performing these duties. - Is it hard? No. Only the demerit, all the rest sits on my shoulders as easy as my musket when I am marching to parade with the tune of "Old folks at home".

I am well & doing well - Remember me to Roseae - You must take a great deal more pains with your hand writing than I do - I want to hear from you as soon as you can write - I have not seen more compositions - I will give you a subject Labor Vincit Omnia - all things (see pg 1st)

You can take the example of a poor boy, with no wealth but good common sense, and show how he may rise to the eminence by making this his motto -
You can tell how Bonaparte - ruined his laurels & his greatness - how he fell - changed the religion of the world - How Peter the Great - remodeled his government and made his empire barbarous people - adding a touch among the civilized & giving (to the nation) of the East - In short how every man who has ruling power has a direction - may suffer for his motto & all need to know that perseverance accomplishes all things -
Your collected Brother
1852
24th

day before yesterday - no, Wednesday, and at the same time one from Lippin. Both were good - both of a good length. She rather beat you this time in point of length. She says she must be very careful or you will outstrip her in learning music - you can read the notes so easily. As you say I carried you on as far as N. York in my last letter. - After leaving the boat I was carried straight to the American House - situated on Broadway. Here I left my trunk & valise - and finding myself in such a busy, noisy place I forgot all about my breakfast, and started off in search of friends. There is always a feeling of discomfort when you find yourself in a large, crowded place, with nothing particular to do, but elbow your way along - where you meet no eye of sympathy or recognition. However, your military buttons will gain you a path, if you put on a bold independent air: yet even then all the hack & carriage drivers will charge you a double price. Considering these things, for you remember the large share of economy in my composition, I resolved to "foot it" as much as my knowledge of the city would admit of. I started my course down Broadway, till I came to the tallest church spire in the city, belonging to what they call Trinity Church

-this I recollect had served as my Guide post before -
I remembered that Silas' Store was on a street that
ran just behind the Pearl St. House - I turned to the left
and went straight forward a half dozen streets or
more - then thinking I had gone far enough in that
direction I turned to the right & proceeded in a
direction parallel to Broadway - soon I found Pearl
Street - then the Pl. St. House - then the Store behind.
Silas was not yet in - I sat down to wait for him & this
reminded me of a want of breakfast. I started off then
to find Frank Sargent's brother I knew his shop was
on a St. called Old Slip - but when I could not
recollect - vain search - my stomach was very angry
at this superabundance of exercise - a nauseating gas
is always in those lower streets - and you are always
meeting - dirty foreigners, adreiferous negroes - and
waddling "old tars" - Carts - trucks & big footed horses
are always in your way, to make you dodge & jump
about. Well I sweat over this exercise & find my way at
last back to Silas' Store - He came in a few moments -
went with me for a breakfast, at the nearest
Eating - House - then took me down to the Wharf - and en-
boarded a big - bark bound for Australia, to set
sail in about a month. Here I found Perry Lee - a
square built - big shouldered young man - a little
taller than your humble servant - a regular sailor.
He knew me instantly, and of course I recognized him.
His face & hair, his voice, with many other people's peculiarities

remain unchanged. He could not leave his vessel
till noon, nor could Silas be absent from his duties
for a long time - so I went to Epes Sargent's Shop -
where he does up medicines to send off - smoked a cigar
and finding myself very comfortably situated, more
so than I would have been wandering about over a dirty,
clerly city in the sultry part of the day, I let curiosity
and love of novelty subside awhile & sat down to
scribble down my thoughts at my friend's desk.
After dinner Perry left his vessel, dropped himself
up & went with me to see his mother at Brooklyn.
We found them pretty well. Sarah has had a hard
time since the birth of her child, but is now better.
They think the girl - baby very fine looking - interesting
lovely in every development. At six o'clock (Thursday)
that same night I took the cars for Peekskill. The
cars are drawn out of the heart of the city by horses - so
you may sit at the window of a car and watch street after
street - pass by you - you can observe hundreds of different
faces - and fancy you trace there as many different
characters - you see old & young, great & small - ragged
boys & girls - prim & private little ones - Noble, whole souled,
looking men, and thin faced, sharp nosed & chin'd
sort of beings, who look very humble, and very absorbed.
Sometimes you amuse yourself by tracing resemblances
between the passers by & your friends & acquaintances afar
off. But by & by you are out of the city - drawn on, snatched
through space - by that big horse fed by fuel, and whole

South Leeds Sep 20th 1852

Dear Brother

I have my pen in my hand
 and I thought that I would write a little.
 Last ~~friday~~ mother and I went up to Fenton
 Hill and we went to Charles's ~~the~~ boarding place
 and Charles was standing in his room soon he
 came. And ^{then} he had to go write his lesson. when
 he came in he wanted to see Mother because
 he thought he should stay. ^{but} soon he changed
 his mind. So we went out to walk we
 went up 4 pair of stairs and Charles ^{and I} got up
 on the Belfry we looked off all round then
 we could see the Bates hill. May began
 to ring the Bell. Mother and C and Mel
 started for home we stoped at Mr. Gibson's
 he has got most well he walks six feet.
 Saturday he Charles was sick so that he
 did not go out a great deal and to day he is
 so sick that Mother thought he had the fever.
 R. B. has got so smart that he picks about here
 and all he thinks of is politics he belongs to two
 Clubs Penfrence and Scott Clubs. he is Secretary
 of the Scott and Graham Club. Old Mr
 Coffin has come in to see us to day or since
 dinner
 from your affectionate Brother
 Roadolphus

My dear son,

that is a great improvement to our scenery I have not seen any of our friends from H. since you left home I have heard that Mrs Strickland was about to visit me but have not seen her, since Charley has been sick, I am in hopes she will not come, as I could not pay much attention to her, I should like to have ^{you} write me, what is the difference between your daily exercise this year and last, so that I can be thinking sometimes in what manner you are then spending your time Francis Lathrop and wife called to see Charlie and to tender their kind services, a few days ago, she said she lost of her little children very much, she had a sister died about the same time of her children. Lois a Mowen has gone on a visit to Massachusetts I hope she is spending her time agreeably. This week while there, I seem to wish to fill up my sheet with something however insipid it may be, I believe there is a general state of good health in town, with few exceptions, Elorus Jennings has been laying sick more than two weeks at his father's where he lately returned from Massachusetts, your father raised six hundred bushels of Oats, George Jones is gone to Boston to live the man with whom he is hired has bought 3 hundred bushels of Oats of your father I am in hopes we shall turn some of our produce towards paying our workman, I hope you will continue to write me, whether I write you or not my care for my children is great, perhaps I have failed to inculcate those lasting principles in my sons which I so much desire them to have, I know that we are not our own keepers, with that view it becomes us to ask the protection of Him, who has an all seeing eye, and not a narrow faith to the ground without

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My dear son,

Leeds Sept 26th 1842.

I have just reread your three last letters to Charlie; who is sick at home (I concluded to take a little table close to his bed, and write to you) his head aches badly, his face is flushed, and puls very quick, I fear he has the typhoid fever, he wrote me a letter last Monday saying he should come home Saturday, he should walk home, said nothing of his health after reading his letter I decided to go up Friday and carry his flannels and other cloths, that the season required, Dolly and I started early Friday morning for Kent's hill to visit Charlie and bring ^{him} home if he wished we reached there at half past ten O'Clock. I found C. looking very pale and even deathly, on enquiry I found he had the headache several days, Mrs R. the Lady who boarded thought he did not exercise enough, at the time other boys were at play, he practiced his music, he said he should like to come home and talk with R. B. about his health &c. all the way he complained of his head, and ever since he came home the pain in his head has increased I found his puls very quick and intermitting, none of my remedies have had the desired effect, the rest of us are in pretty good health, with the exceptions of teeth ach canache &c, your father is gone the most of the time seeing to the railroad affair the Locomotive passes through Leeds every day, R. B. H. is up to something about temperance or Politics all the time, I am not satisfied with his course, I like to see young men begin and follow out the same course, Oh how I wish I could direct him and have him follow my directions, but I cannot I cannot see anything but his general health is good, Nelson Leadbetter, is here on a short visit to his parents has called on me, and would have come and made a

visit with me, had not their babe been taken ill and prevented them, leave next Wednesday for their home, Francis Lottrop has had two of his children die with the diphtheria, I was with them some in their sickness and death, it is one of the hardest things in nature for young and affectionate parents to see their little ones sicken and die, Francis seemed almost wholly absorbed in the one thought that he must have them live, but he could not stay the hand of death, if you see Warren give my best respects to him, Tuesday 11 O'clock. Charlie still continues sick I have called in a Physician to take charge of him, as I did not feel confidence in myself to treat a patient through a fever he has most likely lost his fall's schooling if no more R.B. is playing on the Palace, and Charlie cannot rest because he makes Lincoln's R.B. plays some times well, I should like something pleasant and interesting, but my mind is so full of cares I can hardly collect my thoughts to write anything, I called to see Mrs. Sampson the other day found her very feeble, and quite discouraged, she is very anxious, called to see Anne he is so he can with the help of his nurses get from one room to another, Mrs. Sampson said he met with Mr. White and Lizzie in the car going into Portland Saturday's mail brought a letter from Lizzie to R.B. in answer to one he had written her, I seem to feel extremely sensibly everything that touches you Lizzie spoke as tho' Bob. Lizzie being superintendent at West Point would have a bearing on you for the worse but my son try to have self possession at all times, if you do the best you can; keep your temper look well to the military rules, if you only knew how unhappy your mother was on account of your manner of commencing your year course I think on your own account you will try to understand, and obey the laws of the institution where you seem to be placed, if you are sensible through

much care you are subject, to forget small points do make a minute of them I have ~~been~~ ^{been} not always spoken or written to you with that freedom, that I think is a parent's duty to a child because I knew your sensitive disposition but I do think that you must ^{be} more particular about small things, a great deal depends on small matters I never could fully understand how it was, that you got yourself into just such a situation. Tuesday Oct. 2 the you see by my dates in what manner I have written, Charlie is still confined to his bed, and requires the time of one person to take care of him, I think his symptoms more favorable he is sometimes beautiful to look upon, his skin is so pure, with his dark eyes brow and locks and fine head and hair so perfect, his flush of fever adds to fine looks he has shown the judgment of a man in his sickness Lizzie is keeping the flies off from his face while I write, your sister Lucretia watched with him Sabbath evening night R.B. is a great assistance to me about taking care of Charlie, one divide the night one of us take care of him one part of the night and the other the other part, we have lost Bradford of Thorne for our Physician, I hope to hear you are getting on well in every respect I do not want you to live dissatisfied I hope your health is good, I am glad you went to see the illness Philip's I have a lengthy correspondence between your father and Lucia written, perhaps, for their amusement, or improvement or both I should judge from them that she had a finished education, Lizzie has written something of a letter for me to enclose in mine he seems to think his best performances are acceptable however imperfectly done, Lizzie thinks highly of his brother, and thinks much of their attention and is rather a good sort of a boy we have had a beautiful Autumn so far our seasonable rains, immediately after you left home has given a green covering to the fields

Rowland has been full of politics for the last few months. Till now there was some rejoicing here at Hubbard's defeat. They said men were coming to their senses.

The New York Herald, seemed to be very much elated at the issue of our elections. They saw the triumph plainly, of the opponents of the liquor law.

Have you heard from Grandmother lately? - Perhaps if she is able she will be out to see you this fall. Will she not. Lizzie said Aunt Martha Jane was out at Leeds, when she was writing - Tell me what she had to say in extenuation of her husband's course of procedure. How does the Club & band flourish now - a-days - I want you to tell me everything that is transacting at home - tell me about Delia how he is & what he is doing - about father, how his health is and if he is as full of business as usual. No matter how much you enter into detail - anything connected with home or Leeds will be interesting. Remember me to Aunt Smerdis family - Give my love to each and all who are at home - I shall expect a letter very soon -

From your affectionate son
Oll Howard

Sept 28 1858
Oll Howard

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West Point N.Y. Sept. 28th 1858

My dear Mother,

I meant that you should

have received a letter from me last Saturday - but I found before I got time to write, that it would be too late ^{for} a letter to reach you. I used to write one or two letters on Sunday - but considering my tons of guard duty I have not mind of late very often. It has been a very long time since I have received a letter from home; and I should be full of solicitude. Had not Charlie said in his letter that he met Rowland at Camp meeting and that all our family are well. I presume you have had too much to do to write. I imagine, however, ^{sometimes} that my letters may not be the right kind; - too evil - too distant - which makes it hard for you or Rowland to reply. But a little thought teaches me better: with a passing friend a evil & distant letter would deter him from replying; but mothers & brothers do not act on the same principle. Perhaps you think I do not write enough - so much as a son would who entertained the right kind of feelings towards his mother - then perhaps you think that I devote more time to Lizzie & less time to you than I ought. Think it not if you ~~are~~ ever chid, for it is not true. I consider it a pleasure to write to you as well as a duty; and though I may have other calls upon my time, yet you shall have your share of it. I cannot think after all that my mother would harbor any feelings of jealousy

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because she is not the exclusive object of my affections; for this it seems to me would not be natural. It is my earnest wish that you take us both, Lizzie & me, into your love. - I can well conceive of the anxiety a mother feels for her son touching the step that she thinks is to have an important bearing upon his happiness - that is to say his marriage; it is natural that she should be a little critical in her observations, and perhaps a little more fastidious in her requirements, (which perhaps too she never speaks of) than her son. But my mother must remember that I have a pretty clear head, and am disposed to mingle reason with all things. - I wish you to love Lizzie. Why? because I think she deserves it. Is she without faults? No, neither am I. - though I confess that all the faults I ever discovered in Lizzie, were never the result of a bad heart or a bad motive. But I would rather not praise her. All those who know her best say she is a "noble girl": yet I do not take their eyes to see with. I have said this much, not because I thought you did not entertain the best of feelings towards Lizzie, but because I fancied you would like to tell me many things - that you might like to converse with me more intimately - or if perchance you might have received any wrong impressions concerning Lizzie, that you might tell them to me, as freely as you would tell me your thoughts when I was a little boy, so that I could correct them: - My health has been very good indeed since I have returned and I have been doing remarkably well in my studies till yesterday. You know I will not study Sunday in the day time or evening. Saturday afternoon I took a walk up on Gov. neck. Four of us walked in all

perhaps fifteen or sixteen miles, up high mountain steps - over rough & rugged land without paths & with plenty of rocks or thickets. It was a "wild-goose chase", a sort of exploring expedition taken for amusement. I returned just in time for parade - and to own the truth I never was more ^{completely} tired out in my life. So you see I did not study much Saturday night. Well Monday morning, I began to study as usual immediately after Reveille, but I could not get the whole of my lesson well. The last demonstration I just skimmed over: it was very hard to and was given me just as soon as I got to the recitation room. I put all the work on the board, but made bad work at explaining it. So you need not be surprised if I do not come out first in Philosophy the first month. In drawing I have been doing well. My work is very much better than it was last year. - The scale of demerit has been raised - that is, now an absence from any duty is 8, whereas it was formerly 3, and other things in a like proportion. The maximum amount is still 200. I expect to get a letter from you to day. I will wait. Before I write more and so. (Wednesday) I did not get a letter yesterday - September is almost out & we have not taken off our white pants yet. It seems so chilly to day that I am in hopes there will be an order for Gray pants this evening. Charlie told me all about his journey to Campmeeting - whom he saw &c. - How is Arza? You have not mentioned him nor has Rowland in your letters. I presume from this that he must be better. I presume