Try to locate the other parts of this letter — It was glued to the letter Leeds, June 3, 1854 (453)

my health, as
me, my hair, &
ages, and after
poverty!
ear, you will say
But I can't feel
the face after
nusick, for reason
mention, & was particularly
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classes and by Societies, During the Term these
things remained the same, or nearly so, But
making no better recitations than I did and
no better than I expect to do if I return, You
will see immediately that my situation will be,
to a person of my temperament, disagreeable,
so much so, that to tell the truth, I look forward
to four years at B as an unpleasant season.
Things at College, they tell me, are different from
what they were when you was there. A scramble
for popularity has been succeeded by a scramble
for rank and men are estimated by their
standing as on the Proff's books. In English
studies I hope, I trust I shall succeed better,
and was I in a place where I could pursue
them in accordance with my taste, I should
enjoy myself much better. Uncle Ensign suggests
that I remain out the next term and then enter
some other College. That is the course I would

the rub. I cannot overtask my health, as I said before. It is hard for me, very hard, to prepare a lesson in the Languages, and after it is prepared to be among the poorest — it is more than I can well bear. You will say this is false pride, Perhaps so, but I can't feel hardly to look a classmate in the face after a failure. When I went to Brunswick, for reasons not worth while to mention, I was particularly courted by individuals of my own and other classes and by Societies, (being the same these things remained the same, or nearly so, but making no better recitations than I did and no better than I expect to do if I return, you will see immediately that my situation will be, to a person of my temperament, disagreeable, so much so, that to tell the truth, I look forward to four years at B as an unpleasant season. Things at College, they tell me, are different from what they were when you was there. A scramble for popularity has been succeeded by a scramble for rank and men are estimated by their standing upon the Prof's books. In English studies I hope, I trust I shall succeed better, and was I in a place where I could pursue them in accordance with my taste, I should enjoy myself much better. Uncle Eusign suggests that I remain out the next term and then enter some other College. That is the course I would

like to pursue, following in the mean time some active employment until I fortified myself in a measure, for sedentary pursuits. My inclination points to Brown Univ, but if I should go so far from home I should not be worth a cent at the end of my course, and even your $1400 is better than nothing. This is the state of things and do you wonder that I dont know what to do. I want you to write me your disinterested opinion what is the best course for me to steer. Judge me not by yourself but by myself as I have written to you. I do not wish to incur the charge of egotism by filling my sheet with my own concerns, but hope you will excuse me. I have taken 2 bottles of that Pectoral you spoke of, without receiving material benefit. Grandmother wishes to be remembered to you. She says, next summer you must come and see her and bring Lizzie and make her a long visit. A project the consummation of which I suppose would put you almost in ecstacies at the present time. In regard to your getting caught off guard. It is nothing more than I expected if you tried that experiment. You know you was always caught when up to anything particular.

Hallowell June 9th 1854

My dear Cousin

I was very glad to receive a letter from you and intended to have answered it long ago but various reasons have caused me to put it off till this late day. But I hope you will forgive the delay and give this late reply a welcome. I suppose you are feeling very anxious & excited just now as I believe your last examination will very shortly take place. You have my best wishes for your good success and we all feel quite sure you will get one of the first, if not the first parts. I do not suppose you have parts as in college but I forgot that it was not like college. But I suppose your mind is more taken up just now with a pleasanter subject and we probably more important to your own happiness. For I hear that Stephen & Lucy

get very little to write and not much time for it so I have to impose on their good nature of my friends. Sometimes you must give my love to Lizzie when you see her with my best wishes.

I shall try and go out to Leeds this summer as I do not expect to have many more opportunities. I hope I shall find you and your wife there whenever I go.

Good bye with ~~sincere~~ hopes for your realization of your fondest wishes

I remain your most affectionate cousin

Maria

again I shall see you with a wife. Your gentleman took no delay in these matters. I hope we shall see you both down here my son. I suppose all a mystery upon you as to your future home. I fear for Biggie's sake it will be a pleasant one but I suppose she has made up her mind to be contented wherever it is your duty to go. I think a soldier's wife has some trials to expect and to bear. But for that matter I do not think our life has many more difficulties than another. Think of poor Madison! Times seem to be a great many ships for him, just as he thinks he has got all ready to drink a little pleasure. I hope he will be able to come home this fall and be married. There will be quite a series of such affairs in the family if he does. I think you have decidedly the pleasantest month for it. I should certainly choose that month myself if it was equally convenient.

I have regretted very much that I have not been able to visit West Point while you were there, but it has been quite impossible. I do not suppose I shall ever have so near a point from again so that I shall not enjoy it as much as I had gone upon you left.

I came directly home from Philadelphia. I saw Sarah and Frank for a few hours in New York. They both looked very well and happy. He has just gone into business.

We had two or three days in Boston & then went out to Somerville to see Martha for the day very well indeed. We left Phila. on Tuesday morning May 16th and arrived home the next night. We had a visit from Willie. The week before I left Pa and he did not leave till the day we came away. He likes Baltimore very much. He received a fee of five dollars a few days after he was admitted to the bar. He seemed in very good spirits. When he went on there in March he called to see me and I thought he looked rather out of spirits but as soon as he wrote me I found that he liked it better than he expected.

I hope you will be able to read this letter but I really have not time now to write any more slowly. I have a

My dear Son, Leeds, June, 13 1854.

Notwithstanding we have received no intelligence, yet, of our last letter which was mailed the seventh with two fifty dollar bills enclosed, neither is it time your father thinks it best, to mail the other hundred to day in two fifty dollar bills we shall expect news of the other or other to day — or tomorrow, the country was never more beautiful, with us, than at the present day, I thought this morning I wished some of my most beautiful flowers would retain their freshness until you reached home, but I fear, they they will not the air is perfumed with the sweetness of the early flowers I hope, Lissie will come home with you, when you come, I will write to her, ~~if I have time~~ I think, soon and see if she will come we have a prospect of abundance of English strawberrys this season, and everything else although we had such a long tedious Winter extended almost to Summer, yet we have summer in all its beauties just the same as ever,

in haste your affectionate Mother
Elisa Gilmore,

Oliver, O. Howard,

P.S. you had better drop a line to us on receiving this, and let us know how your getting on E. Gilmore

West Point N.Y. June 15th '34.

My dear Mother,

I received your last letter enclosing the last ten dollars - I was happily disappointed. for in my previous letter I wrote for you to send no more as I could not remain long enough to receive it - I am glad because it enables me to dispose of every thing. I completed my course in the mental department this morning. Tomorrow the Medical Board will determine upon our physical qualifications. In this department I expect to stand moderately high, since all my bumps & knocks have left me in all my strength of mind & body. The final standing will come tomorrow. That is we will know where we ~~come~~ out in the class - but cannot yet determine into what Corps they will put us. The officers of my acquaintance and ~~some~~ some of the Professors are anxious for me to go into the Engineer Corps but I fear they will not be able to recommend me. I will graduate among the fives and had it not been for my excitability of temperament I should have scored. Cadets see Graduates 1st in Eng. 1st in Ethics - 1st in Mineralogy & Geology - 1st in Artillery - 1st in Infantry - 1st in Cavalry - I did badly in Infantry & not very well in Cavalry - Strength I was perfectly familiar with the subjects which were given me in both. We have a lecture before the Dialectic Society this evening at five

in the Chapel by Mr Clemens of Alabama Virginia. We expect a treat. I have been to every house on West Point almost to invite people to the same. Mrs Cooper offered me some wine. I told her of my pledge, and she said it was "beautiful" to find a young man who could refuse it. She is a beautiful and an excellent lady. I never have been at her house without the warmest of welcomes - and she always sends me nice things at the Hospital. So also Mrs Berard & Mrs Boynton & Mrs Sprole. You would think I was a lady's (or a Ladies' man rather) to see me going about here, but I don't believe I am. I do love West Point now, almost as much as I used to hate it. You perceive a picture may appear differently when regarded in different lights. I saw everything once through an unfavorable medium. The Professors are without exception my fast friends, and I wish I was half as good a man as I have the reputation of being here. But I have said enough of myself. I got a beautiful bouquet this morning in my perambulations this morning - but I know that they would have been sweeter to me if they had been gathered in our front yard. I shall leave West Point on Monday next - for New York - shall reach Portland by Saturday following - will be home pretty soon. Good bye for the present. My love to all. Yrs affectionately

O. O. Howard

(11)

Bowdoin College Jan 17
57

Friend Howard

I was pleased to receive your letter, to which I have not I believe yet replied. Your brother handed me the money as you said. The funds have come in slowly however & it was only yesterday that I despatched my

order for the cradle—
I have not time to say much
now; indeed I shall see
you so soon that it is
hardly worth while, my
object in writing is to
say that I hope when
you come you will come
directly to our house
& make that your head
quarters while here; we
shall all be pleased to
see you & no one
more than you.

Friend & Classmate
C C Everitt