

have at times bought a peck, which have
lasted well. I was into Portland to the Fair
a week or two Saturday. There I saw all sorts
of articles that are much by mechanics & also
other works of art some of which were very
beautiful. I saw specimens of steam cooking,
printing-press, ploughs, a mowing machine &c
of iron. Wagons & Chaises of beautiful form
color & material with harnesses & sleighs, bellows
& washing machines which were very curious. And
also a sewing machine with which a woman
could try turning a crank sew very fast, kindly
a shoe in about a minute. There were of wood &
iron. But I saw so many thousand things that
I could not begin to mention them all. Among
other things some most excellent paintings &
drawings & daguerotypes. Some beautiful pianos.
on which I heard some excellent playing & fine
music. It took me a long time to look at
all the things to be seen at the Fair & I set
out for Yarmouth in the Evening.

We have very good programming at the

Academy building under the direction of
the students only & they who are pious take
turns in taking the care of these meetings.
I shall take the lead next time. My duty will
be to open the meeting by reading & singing
& prayer, then read a Magazine & all sing who
can. After that the meeting goes on as usual
the time being occupied in speaking & praying
& singing. Do you attend the meetings now?
I suppose you do, & hope you enjoy them better
than ever before. But I have not written to
the Society yet as I thought I should. How
have you prospered? Does not David make
a proper President or do you now
have any difficulty? or do things go on
smoothly & pleasantly? Tell them of
I do not get time to write, but I hope they
will get along well & hopefully till I get home
when we shall all meet again & have a
joyous meeting with old friends & a profitable
time for us all. Write & tell me all about
it. Love. And your own feelings in

winter. Has Warren got any one yet? I suppose
I shall have to return here this winter after
a vacation of two or three weeks. Rowland
thinks this is the best course to take if I
am going to college next Fall as I
intend to & I think I better get a good
bit. — I have not answered Billie's last
letter yet — but must do so tonight, for he
has been real good to write this time, for
which I am very much pleased. I also
owe to Elsie a letter which I must answer
on a first opportunity, but meanwhile
I hope to hear from home, & hear all about
mother & father, brother, friends, neighbors
& all. Willie I suppose will tell me about
the society. How goes on the farming? I
am utterly ignorant of picking apples,
digging potatoes, getting in & husking corn,
pumpkins, turnips, garden sauce, garden seeds,
plants & flowers, chickens, lambs, Boys & Girls
Men & Women, old & young of seeds at this time.
Where is Roland Alger? Where is Nettie, Nancy
Roscoe & others of acquaintance intimate, please
mother give my love to all & write very soon if
all well. Now good night & remember you affectionately
Mrs. Eliza Gilman. Chas. W. Howard

Yarmouth Oct 15th 1854

My dear mother

It seems long
very long since I heard from you. I did
not write last Sunday, for I was in hopes to
get a letter before writing a third. I have not had
time to write week-days an account of my studies.
But another Sabbath has arrived & the day has
passed & I have received no letter yet nor have
I written any. But I hope that you are in
good health & spirits tonight although 'tis
strange that I have not heard a letter since I
left home. I am quite well & have been since
I last wrote, getting along well in my studies,
although I have to study pretty steadily to
get all my lessons well. We are ranked in
all our studies & our rank is to be reported
at the close of the term. Also we are to have
an exhibition at the close of the term at
which those who stand highest in their class will have
most honorable parts. We are ranked in Disputation
and composition also, so you see we have quite a

prize to strive for. We get quite long papers
and I never meet so thoroughly. I do this term.
We have very good Philologian meetings this
term & I often have a part to perform in them.
I am appointed to prepare a dissertation
for the next meeting which takes much of
my leisure time, my subject is 'the study
of Greek & Latin in our schools & colleges.'

We have quite an interesting paper connected
with the society for which nearly all candidates
must answer. Winter is Editor & there is an
Editorial. We have our prayer-meeting regularly
every Tuesday night, at which there are now
but students. This term I have been spending my
time since I last wrote, studying, writing,
declaiming, attending Prayer-meeting & Philo.

I also visit my acquaintances some, & have
been into Portland to the Fare I believe
since I wrote, of which you have probably
heard through Portland, & that he was here &
married awhile last Sat. eve, then went to
Portland with Frank Gilman, stayed over
Sat. and Aunt Martha's son & Lizzie, returned
Monday forenoon stayed at dinner with me

then went to Brunswick in half-past one train.
I enjoyed my visit into Portland very
much, saw sights worth the time & expense,
for the time was only Sat. afternoon & the
usual expense was lowered one half. I read
at Lizzie's a letter from Otis' written at
Philadelphia & I have, as I suppose you have
read a letter from him since he arrived
at Troy. I am glad to find that he likes
his situation thus far, for if it pleases
him he will be much happier for the
coming year if he is there as long as that.
Portland was well as usual, tells me he
expects to teach in Grafton this winter
& may not go home at the close of this
term. I wish he could be at home to
Thanksgiving for I shall be there as I
see by yesterday's paper that it is the 30th
of Nov. and week after the close of this term.
Have you yet found out who will keep
our school this winter? I hope we shall have
a good school for Lizzie's sake. Horner
has written me to get Esther Frost
to keep his school but she could not
go as she is intending to teach in New Jersey this

me if you know. I expected to see
his name among the appointments
to the new Regiment - was looking
for it. - Since Boygs went to
Mass Point on a Court Martial - and
when he returned, that he saw
Lathrop and that he looked
completely broken down. Next I
heard from Howland that he was
at home. I wish to hear from
you - whether you are going away
to school or intend to stay at home
this fall and keep Mother company.
You must remember me to all
friends who inquire for me and
write me when you can.
Lizzie sends her love to Dillie -
Gina and love to Mother. (I am
going to write her this week) and
also to Father, Howland & all.

Trusting that you are all in
the best of health, I remain as ever
Your affectionate brother
Chas

433

Waterliet Arsenal
Oct. 26th 1854.

My dear Brother,
I have a
good mind to reprimand myself
for not writing you before - but
now you are to have a letter
for I have set about it in
good earnest. Yesterday I went
to the shops and got a piece of
pine, of cylindrical shape & about
nine inches long. Around this I
wrapped my picture and directed
the same to Col Geo. Gilmore.
After all this preamble I wish to ask
a simple question - Have you got
the piece of pine? Tell Mother, I
hardly think the production worth
a frame. To make it look
respectably - she must put it in the

middle of a blank sheet of drawing
paper, sticking it at the corners
with wafers, or all along the
edges with ~~not~~ Gum Arabic. Even
if it was framed it would not
look well unless it was widened
by a white sheet. You will notice
the building with a clock upon it -
that is the Stone Arsenal and our
house is off to the right as you
face the Arsenal. The road
commences just after crossing the
canal bridge and runs up
between our house & the Arsenal.
The other building you see in
the distance is a Stone Warehouse
for Heavy Artillery Carriages
on the lower story and for Implements
& Horses &c on the 2nd floor.

I live in the tenement towards the
Arsenal. We are at the moment
in the front Chamber, that has three
windows two on the front and one

on the side. The parlor is immediately
beneath. The kitchen in the part of
the house that runs back from the
main body. The entire structure is
built of granite. The land runs
parallel with the front of the house
& Arsenal. But I could not well
take in the grounds quite to it.
Maj. Sympington's quarters are just
as far to the left as ours are to
the right of the Arsenal. The road
that runs between those two posts
in front of the Arsenal leads to his
house. You must write me
and tell what satisfaction you
have derived from my productions
of art. Edmund Montana and
Charlie have left you and perhaps
you yourself have left for school.
Have you and your brothers had
grand good times? Music in plenty?
How is Warren Lottrop's health? Has
he left the Army for good? Write