

My own judgments - that it is better to have the money in my hands than to have it in the hands of the Government - I hope I may have the opportunity in some way to contribute to the cause of the South.

wrote to Charles & Deller. If any of them write to you before we hear from you they will direct to Tampa - I think Ella may write as I told her I know a letter would be very welcome to you. insofar as you will be from all your family, relatives & friends I expect some active operations will commence against the Indians about this time as the time of the trace is now over. We are, of course, chiefly interested in those things that concern you personally. Lizzie is looking for a letter tomorrow or next day from you while at Savannah. I suppose it will take about 10 days to hear from the neighborhood of Tampa. I have not wiped the car any morning yet. tho' it was a little hard at first I believe we are getting along nicely with the early breakfast 7 1/4 O'clock. I will not enlarge upon the feelings which I experienced at your sudden departure & repatriation from all you loved & all who loved you. You find them all in your own heart. It is a cheering reflection that the same kind Providence governs everywhere & that will still take care of you. Lizzie likes to be so independent in her dealings, that I can be of little use to her now. She enjoys it better so - but if anything should occur to make me necessary - my efforts should never be wanting to make her & her family comfortable & happy.

West Troy Jan 4th 1856

My dear Brother
Lizzie will write as soon as she receives your letter - Guy
Luz
Frank
up & is
Luz
a nice
in the
beach
hall
with
Luz
Mrs. Wain
Luz
Luz
Luz
Luz

We are all well this morning and all at home. I gave a very distinct invitation to each of the ladies to go to Church with me. but there is a light snow which fell yesterday on the ground so that they had a good game which you know they are not loth to take advantage of when Church-going is concerned. Lizzie wrote you the first of the week & enclosed the draft sent by your English friend. In the letter accompanying he expresses his thanks to you in so cordial & manly a manner as to make me say to Lizzie that if you had read it - I guessed you would have said that you wished you had said \$30,000. or more. Guy wrote you in his letter the principal details of his life for a few days back. The chickens are gradually disappearing down our throats. Christmas & New Years made such havoc among them. Lizzie writes you about the furniture. What Mrs. Lee will take & what she will sell elsewhere. I have done nothing about the carriage yet. Mr. Poggio has not yet received his leave altho' he expects it - every day. My Lecture papered off in a way very gratifying to me & would have been so to you. could you have been present. When the President paid me the 25.00 he said that every one whom we see at the best they

had had & in every way excellent. We were sorry
that their circumstances would not permit
them to pay me more liberally. I was, too - Dr.
Gregory came & took lunch with me after I got
through that night & repeated himself. "highly
pleased. yet more than pleased. instructed
& relieved" I always expect the ladies to
be pleased with my enthusiasm - but I prize
the Doctor's praise more highly for I think he
judges of the performance by its real merits -
I go down on the Troy & Greenbush N.R. every
morning to Albany at quarter before 9 o'clock.
I get 8 tickets for a dollar & am carried over
by a R.R. Meigh at Albany gratis - I have
taken part in two of the " moot Courts" & am juris.
Council in a case to be argued next Friday -
Judge Conkling is very kind in assisting
me to look up authorities and in advice -
We have had no violently cold weather since you
left - Lizzie's present mus. in my opinion is
one of the most beautiful & appropriate in
the world. It is a work of art for national
pride as well as individual delight - Friday -
Mrs. Lee & Lizzie walked over to Troy. Lizzie
wore it first rate but Mrs. Lee came to near
freezing her feet that they melted & she had
a real ergany spell - Everything goes on very
much as it did when you were here - I

settled the month's gas bill yesterday & it
amounted to \$5.94 - I earned 11.06 - Mend 4.19
Skinner 12.24
So you see we are a
little better off than last month - Lizzie thinks
she will dissipate Thomas entirely as Annie can
just as well see to the furnace - We shall
either kill or sell the pig alive before long - Mrs.
Dunlop called to see Lizzie Friday - Lizzie seems
cheerful - but if possible still more devoted to
her than when his father was here to share her
attentions - The only danger to the little fellow
is in too much love & care & fear for him - We
haven't heard from Mother since you left - Delle
writes from London where he is pursuing his
studies - I enclose his last letter to me which
I think rather funny - Ella writes me about
once a week. Her letters are full of expressions
of sympathy for Lizzie - She says she is "in hopes
that the day may come when we may reciprocate
the kindness for which I have been indebted
to you & Lizzie - Ella fell in love with you at
first sight & never recovers in telling me how much
she loves you - She has few favorites but when
Mother says, "she loves them to death" - You are de-
cidedly among the number - Of course, she is
overjoyed at the prospect of seeing me as soon
as the first of March - Lizzie has written Mother
& I wrote her a long letter New Years day -
We shall expect to hear from her soon - I also

laborer, which is ^{the} reason of my di-
recting this messenger, to that
place where young men learn to
straighten up and become initiated
in the ways of winding & breaking mas-
sive hearts; but something unnecessa-
ry for you to acquire, having already
taken to your bosom the one prized
above all others. But to change the
current I will first give you a brief
history of myself and then make
sundry inquiries respecting A. C.
Howard and the partners of his
toil during a four year's struggle
in the barren lands of Brunswick.
Leaving Farmington the very ~~next~~ home
about the middle of September 1849, I
proceeded in direct course to South
Britain Ct where I took charge of an
Academy for one ^{year}, during which time
I instilled many valuable precepts
into the minds of the young & rising
generation committed to my charge.
From that place I stepped over into the
next town where my brother lives,
with whom I stopped 2 months and
commenced the teaching business
again in the town of Roxbury
the first of last November, but

had not taught there but 2 or 3
weeks, before I rec'd a very good
offer, in deed, to come to this town
which I was enabled to do by supply-
ing my place with another man in
Roxbury. On the 8th of Dec. 1850 I
commenced, or opened a select school
in this town where I am succeeding
tolerably well at present. My loca-
tion is within 11 miles of New Haven
which place I can visit any day with-
out interrupting to my school and I
believe that I can visit New York
without losing time, going down in the
~~evening~~ & returning in the ^{ing} train.
But, perhaps I am almost at the
end of a sheet - let me make a few
inquiries with regard to yourself - what
are you doing, what profession do you
intend to follow? of course the profession
of arms if you have taken quarters in the
Military Academy, where is A. C. Peleg?
What are all your fellows doing?
Please give me an ac't of the times.

Very truly your friend
Chas. Cottren

Mr Whitfield is from Mississippi himself, but married his young wife in S. Carolina. She is suffering from chills & fever now. She looked to me as if she could rate her husband for bringing her here & did sometimes. We have good fare & a good bed here.

Jan'y 7th (Wednesday) We started on by sun rise - amused ourselves as best we could by getting the little negro to sing, reading & sleeping a little between jolts. We came about noon to a station of Volunteers, where we found a small detachment without arms. The Captain, McWilly, had been sent to Tampa and left his wife here in a miserable hut with two children sick with chills & fever & two more too small to take care of themselves. She set before us such a dinner as she could. Here we changed horses for the last time & got two that had been poorly fed, so that we moped along for the next 20 miles.

We reached Tampa just after dark without having seen an Indian all the way - all the people along the way are getting scared & moving off. (Jan'y 8th Thursday) I find myself on board the Fashion a steamer belonging to the government & bound for Ft. Myers. Last night on my arrival at Tampa I went to a hotel & met officers who told me that Genl Horney was at Ft Myers and that this steamer would leave in half an hour. I made my arrangements and started immediately. was rowed out of the bay for three or four miles to the place where the Fashion lay at anchor. I had last night a good & comfortable bed on board & slept soundly the whole night. Before turning in I went forward with the Captain to enjoy a moonlight view of Tampa bay & the coast of Florida. We had a gentle breeze and it was just cool enough for comfort. This morning I was up bright & early. The sun rose free from clouds & the water was still. After an excellent breakfast I walked the deck. We hardly go out of sight of the coast. The land which you can see for miles is a dead level & covered with trees & bordered towards the sea with a white, sandy beach. (Evening) We arrived at Pt. Aransas at the mouth of the Caloosahatchee river, about one o'clock. Here we found one company of Artillery commanded by Major

Head Quarters Dept. of Florida

Tampa Jan 10th 1856.

My dearest wife,

It is a week tomorrow since I wrote you from Palatka and no doubt you are anxious to know how I got through the Indian country. I will begin back at Palatka & follow myself through my wicki work. I slept at the house where I wrote last. (Jan'y 5th Monday) was waked this morning by sunrise, breakfasted and started at 4th past 4 for Tampa, our passengers on the stage were Capt. Taylor a wealthy gentleman of Okala Fla, formerly a North Carolina gentleman, a young planter Mr. Kinler, The Rev Mr Thomas, President of Oxford College Ga. An old gentleman Mr. May in the last stages of consumption with his servant and also the mail contractor Mr. Hart formerly of Vermont. We have been together long enough to get well acquainted and manage to pass the time agreeably even in this old cast of a stage. We now have four nice horses, but the roads are of a deep fine sand all the way & the best of horses will soon tire. We have been travelling all day in a forest of pine trees. Occasionally we would pass a place where a man had squatted with his family miserably poor, his shelter an old log hut & his children, thin

meagre little creatures, with matted hair of the color of the white sand in which they play. Their nests never nearer to each other than four or five miles. The forest is not generally ^{thick} continuous. Even where somebody has planted, the trees & large stumps are still standing. We reached Orange Springs about noon. There is quite a little settlement. They have got us for as a church & a public house; just back of this house is the spring, which gives healing to so many kinds of invalids. The water is clear & limpid, but tastes of sulphur & exhales a strong odor of the same. Mr Thomas, Mr Key & servant left us here 25 miles out of Palatka. After we had got our dinner the rest of our party went on over the same kind of road, jolting over the uneven spots of the palmetto. We left Mr Kinler four miles before we came to Okala. This place we came into just at dusk. Capt Taylor's plantation being not far off, he got off at Okala. He was truly an agreeable gentleman, showed me much attention and wanted me to stop a day or two with him & as I could not insisted that I should visit him while I was in Fla. and that you must stop & rest at his house, over one stage at least, should you start for Tampa. I felt sorry & lonely to lose these companions. They had afforded me entertainment & instruction & Mr Kinler & myself had been together six days. We had got 60 miles; took supper, had two poor horses with a new driver, Janyo (Tuesday) traveled all last night. At Okala we took in two gentlemen roughly clad, Judge Erbanks & Mr Nix of the Fla. legislature. The Judge is an aged man & a Senator. Mr Nix a hearty middle aged man & a representative. We passed through a continuous forest as in the day

time without a sign of a habitation for miles & miles, occasionally there were hammocks covered thick with trees & underbrush so that you could not see them put into them. I rode on a horse brought by the stage contractor to ride back on, for seven or eight miles. While riding I saw two deer skipping along, for we had a bright moon. Before we got to a house where we were to change horses & to take a meal the driver would blow a blast on a long tin horn. About sun rise he gave some terrible blasts & in 15 minutes after, we drove up to a log-house, where a Mr Key entertained us with a warm fire (for even here we need a fire) & a warm breakfast, changed our horses, which, poor creatures, had dragged along their bodies over the sand over roots & stumps for 30 or 40 miles. It tired me badly to walk a couple of miles; on we went with the same monotonous scenery & the same sort of roads till we came to a Mr Mayo's for dinner - a rich man, with a log-store a log-house & a log-kitchen out side of it. We dined & exchanged horses again. The next eight miles I rode on horse back, another gentleman riding kept me company. We chatted away the time & distance & I hardly could think I had ridden so far. Here we lost our legislators, but had picked up a young man & a little girl of 7 yrs and a negro boy. I got into the stage & we went 8 miles further. Night finds us at Mr Whitfield's. He has a comparatively handsome log-house & a number of negroes. On the end or side of these structures of heavy logs is a chimney of clay & sand, & an immense fire place opening into it from the room within. They put on wood four feet long.

Rockelle with Lt Hill (not Jimmy) & Wingate. We stopped our horses on
more. manned a small boat with 5 good oarsmen & proceeded
up the river for Ft Myers which is on the right bank 18 or 20 miles
distant. We got on well for a while as it was warm & pleasant
but the wind soon set in ahead & blew so hard down river that
we could make very little headway. The scenery very like that
on the St. Johns, a succession of beautiful lakes. The channel, however,
was narrow & winding. We passed the point where Gen Harney
in the last Indian war was surprised & escaped alone in his
drawers. He had some forty men killed. He was taken off by a boat
some seven or eight miles below. We got to the Ft about 9 in
the evening. I reported to the General immediately. I found Lt
Terrill at his office & his asst. adjt. Genl. Capt Pleasanton. The
General is about six & a half feet in height and stoutly built as
that. his hair & whiskers quite grey, his eyes blue with a little
of the devil in them. He received me very cordially & said I would
go to Tampa with him in the morning. Capt Pleasanton is a very
handsome little man, who does not look older than 22. Though
he must be nearer thirty. Mr Burns of the 5th Infy. kindly offered
me a part of his bed & gave me a warm fire & supper. In
the morning about 9 o'clock the General, & his staff, consisting of
Dr McLaren, Capt Pleasanton & myself set off with a crew of soldiers.
One of the latter was crazy or a fool, laughed in the General's face
& replied to him. Genl Harney got in a perfect rage. He cursed the
man & the orderly sergeant that detached him. The old Genl is most
terrific in his anger. He is impatient, no reasoner, jumps at conclus-
ions, rather self-willed but continually shifting his tactics. We reach-

Mr. Arresso at last, went on board the Fashion & got off for Tampa
as soon as the Capt. could get up steam. In the evening we four
played Dominoes. The General was beaten every time. He says
that is just his luck. I found the Dr. a very pleasant &
agreeable companion. He has been at Boston for the past
few years & arrived here about two months ago. We got here
late this morning and this afternoon I was assigned to duty
here as Ordnance Officer. (Sunday Jan 11th) My candle burned
out last night before I finished your letter & I went to bed. I am
now at the Ordnance Depot writing on a board laid across two boxes.
I find an Ordnance Sergeant here. I am stopping for the present
at Duke's hotel, shall have quarters as soon as I make requisition
for them. Tampa is a pretty place, but everything is so
rough & there is so little chance for comfort that I would not
bring you here. Now is our darling little Guy. I would like to see
you all. Give my love to Rowland & Mother & my regards to the
rest. The Indians have murdered a whole family at New Smyrna
and Genl. Warrner has declared war against them. We have some
9000 men in the field of which 10 companies are volunteers. I may
be here some time, at least as long as the Campaign lasts. I
shall have much to do. I think your arrangement for going to
Maine the best. My dear brother must assist you all in his power.
May God be your friend & your guide. Tell Guy he must be a nice
boy & love Mamma, from Your most affectionate & loving
Wife
Lizzie Howard Chas

some ginger tea. I went
to hear Ross & when R.
got home from Augusta
and if Laura has got
home yet. How is Dillie
getting along in his studies
I want to know about
you all. My class will
go thro' the Algebra. Also
thro' the Arithmetic. You
gave thro' the Grammar &
can give all the rules of
syntax. I hope Dillie is
making good progress.
Give my love to him
& father Roland & Mother
Remember me to all
my young acquaintances &
neighbors & write me when
you can Mother. The shirt
suit just recd. Your Affectionate Son
C. H. H. H.

1856
Vespertone Jan. 31

My dear mother
It seems a long
time since I wrote you but
I suppose you heard from
me by Roland. I would
have written a letter for him
to carry but it was not con-
venient. I have prospered
well since I returned &
shall not have to make
up the day I lost. It
was so stormy that no one
came to school. I teach
just 3 weeks longer. Then
I suppose I better go direct
to Brunswick tho' I'd like
to go home. I attended
church at the Baptist
house today for the first
time since I came here.
Heard Elder Avery, a man

seeking contributions for
the domestic missions.

He also preached in
my school-house tonight
& I have just returned
from hearing him. The
Baptist preacher's name
is Bartlett, an old man.
The house is about 3
miles by the road being
across the pond east
from me. I am now
boarding at the Poole
House, the best about the
best house I have
found. It is a new one
painted yellow, commodious
& convenient. The parson
has a room by themselves
& I have not seen them
but guess they I went
in on purpose with Mr
Weyger & got "Old Milly"

(a woman of 250 lbs) to sing
to us. The people here are
pleasant & try hard to
make "master" comfortable.
I called at Mr Giggins
this afternoon. Mrs W's
brother Sam Hedge - died
out of August a week then
& her daughter Ellen of
15 who lives in August
with her mother & Grand
father. They returned to
A. tonight & we passed
the time in singing &
the Gilecomer & talking
all meeting. I am
writing in Mrs Small's
kitchen (similar to my
Turner's) with 4 of my
scholars 3 boys & 1 girl
also Mr & Mrs Small
sitting by the stove.
She has just made me

Old Belmont Moore arrived last night. He is in command now of the 4th Regt of Artillery - a very
good man. He is very kind & sociable. Every body is glad to see him at the Post.

It will take two days longer for your letters to reach me
and the same for mine to reach you. I don't know
whether our letters go between N. York ^{& Savannah} by land or water. There
is now the best prospect in the world for an increase of
our pay. I have not yet drawn my transportation, which will
amount to one hundred & sixty dollars at the least, and
there will soon be a month's pay due and I have sixty
dollars in my pocket. I shall transmit to you 50 dollars
per month as an allowance. After you get to Lewiston you
must ascertain the best place for deposits, or if anybody
wants money I will give a note at 6 percent with good
security. You can let it for me. I shall send you a
check for 200 dollars in a few days which you can place in
the State Bank of Troy. Always my dearest love for yourself
what you need. Don't stint yourself. If you like you can get
Uncle Edward White to deposit for me in a Postoffice Bank.
The Banks in New York State are the safest in the world, so you
need not be uneasy about leaving in the Troy State Bank
whatever is there that you do not need. I don't know how much
it will cost you to live in Lewiston. You must write me.
If the pay bill passes I will be able to send you more than
50 dollars per month after the check that I spoke of. I am glad
Mrs Lee has concluded to take so many things. We don't
know where we shall keep house again and the fewer articles
of furniture we have the better. Major Leonard was in to see me yesterday
He said he hoped the Lord would spare your little one to you - His wife is
a year younger than you & about your size. She lost her child a year ago
The Major said it came near killing her. It was a boy & two years old.
She never can bear Tompa since. A child may live or die in any

place. Mrs McHenry's little boy two years old is bigger & fatter, and so is Mrs Rogers
little boy at home.
My dear wife,
I am not the
only one who
am fond of
this way with the
land.
My love to Mother
& all - less little
you than for father.
I wish as much as
you to see & care.
I don't know what
to tell you about you
like I do of you,
your loving husband
Ole
Jamestown
1851.
I'll send I have
lost my letter to
Mother to Ella -
I mean I do nothing
from either yet - but
as for two mail -
This letter will not leave here till
Sunday night, but as I have time & Lieut Mack is writing
I will commence a letter to be finished day after tomorrow.
I received two letters from you the night I mailed yours
of the 21st. I was obliged to put the letter in before I took any
out for fear the Postmaster here would fix the out-mail
without my letter. One of your letters was mailed the 7th &
the other the 12th. You couldn't have made a better resolution,
My darling wife, than that your absent husband should
have a letter twice a week. I watch every mail for one.
It is a consolation for absence & a pleasure to feel that there
is such a little messenger on the way, if it does take
eight, & sometimes twelve days for one to come. How can
you ask if I want you to write so often. Your heart will
answer such questions. I have written every mail since
I got back from Fort Myers so that you must begin to
receive letters regularly by this time. I have also written
three times to Mother, one at Palatka, one a week ago, &
another lies on my table directed to Leeds. I have written
also to Rowland and a brief note to Charles Mulliken,
probably on business that concerns him. The Mail contractor
wanted to purchase hay from somebody in Maine &
I told I thought Charles would furnish him on commission.
This contractor lives at Palatka. Little Guy is not asleep so he comes

to help mother write in his way." You don't know what a
magic there is in these little expressions to the heart of the
absent father. Don't my darling Lizzie neglect to speak of him
when you write, even if I do not mention him. You can tell
me of his cunning little ways without doing him harm, though
I would rather neither you or his Grandmother would
tell of them to any one else, for a habit once formed is not
easily broken and his self importance will be proportionate
to the great things he is taught he has done, is doing, & can
do. Oh! I would not have him grow up & be like so many others
whom the overfondness of parents & Grandparents has spoiled.

To save us pain & bitter tears in the future which will come
in the present, I must beg & urge you & Mother to be careful
in these little things while his little mind is forming. But in
a letter to your husband you can pour out your hearts fulness
without reserve, and the little boy may some day read how
much his Mother loved him. I hope & pray that our Saviour
may help us to so bring him up as to be a joy and a blessing
to his father & Mother. How happens it that Mrs. Briggs does
go with her husband to Baton Rouge? I should not think she
would like to remain with his family at such a time.

I presume you think just when I say this. But there is less
difference between the climate of Augusta, Georgia, & Baton Rouge
than between Waterbury & Tampa. You & Guy might be
well & keep up here and you might be broken by the summer
weather. I dare not risk it now. I never could forgive myself
if I should lose you by your coming here. Let us be content
you with Guy & whatever else God in wisdom may vouchsafe
to you & I with the happiness of having such a wife & such a

child though now far away, and the lively hope of being
with them again. It is for the Christian & her alone, to be happy
let what will befall and, My precious wife, may we not be such?

Saturday Jan 24th. It is just four weeks today since I left
New York. The time does not drag heavily, yes, the new
things & varieties to be seen in travelling and the immediate
activity required after my arrival here, have made the
days pass rapidly, but I expect I shall weary of this
place if I am left long idle. Very soon however I shall
have enough to do. I don't know whether the Colonel
will send me any men from Waterbury or not. I did
not mention any body in particular. If I had not found
a good Sergeant here, I should have applied for Sanders.
But the Ordnance Sergeant, Flynn, is a capable man &
a good clerk. I asked for an Ordnance who is a good man
at his trade and some artificers. If they go from
Waterbury they will start before they reach you. I don't
know what I want anything at present, that I can't do
well do without, except by yourself & Guy. (Sunday morning
January 25.) Dearest, I looked for a letter from you last night
but none came. I suspect there is one or more on the way. Only
one of your letters has come straight through. We are having fine
weather now. I saw the negroes planting potatoes yesterday.
I have a horse to ride every evening. Day before yesterday
rode three miles and yesterday five or six. I don't keep
a horse, but borrow one from the Quartermasters Department.
I shall be glad for you when everything is settled at Water-
bury and you have performed your journey in safety.
There is but one objection to the change and that is