

per month. Merrill has
written to engage me next
winter to teach in Falmouth.
But I shall make no
engagements yet. I hope
I shall enjoy school teaching
as well as I do this
winter. I hear Mr Wiggins
is not going to teach
any more after the close
of this term but is going
to study law. I doubt
his making a first class
lawyer. He has always
desired to be a lawyer.
Remember me to my
friends & neighbors at
home I would like very
much to see them especially
Melvin Berry for I want
my boots mended. Write
me soon & remember me as
your Affectionate Son C. H. Howard

1856
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Mrs. E. Gilmore. Napaalboro. Feb. 8
Dear Mother
I am today
kept at home from meeting
by the bad roads & weather
for the wind blows hard.
I have planned a few times
to Ohio. He & I'll be writing me
a letter a day or two ago. Now
I think I'll tell you that I'm
prospering & that my school
closes next Friday night.
I should like to go to Leeds
to see the folks. Besides I
have lots of mending to
be done. If I do not go home
Sat. or Friday night. I shall
get them mended somehow
at Brunswick. I suppose
Rowland has gone over this.
I saw I'll be last Sat. & Sun.
Mr Wiggins's young folks came
over & I came back with

them Sunday afternoon.

It was a pleasant day & I had a pleasant ride.

Bellie enjoys his visit at August very much. He attends the lectures, & sees all the sights there are to be seen. My school is very pleasant still & I feel sad to have it close. I am quite attached to my scholars & their parents. It has been some time since I wrote.

It is because I have been down to Augusta most every Sunday. I wonder how you like the new Guy. I like it well.

It is convenient too. How is Roland & his wife? Has Mr Longley moved away yet? I long to see the new house mount up

on the old place. Bellie is studying some at August. He is very well advanced in his Algebra & will finish it in a week or two. How is your health now & how do you like your new girl & is she content to stay with you. I have not had more than one letter from you this winter. If true, you must write me a letter to Ben. if I do not come home. When my debts are paid I shall have no money left of this Winter's wages. Tho' I shall earn $62\frac{1}{2}$ dollars. King of Monmouth in my class has the school at Yarmouth. He came over to Leeds you know when I was at home. He has 38 dollars

Tennessee Arsenal Augusta Me.
February 6th 1855

Dear Mother,

I received your letter to Dellie & myself last night. Rowland wrote me from Brunswick that he would like to have Dellie visit him. So I let him go to B. Yesterday. He will return today or tomorrow. The cheapest and best way for him to go home will be to take the stage for Northrop, which meets the down train at $\frac{1}{2}$ past eleven. I have a bad cold myself and could not leave very well to take him out. Lizzie is weak and low but in no apparent danger. Peter Jones, if she has any, is very slight. She looks bright and cheerful this morning. It will take some time for her to get back where she was before this ill turn. It was occasioned entirely by a cold we think. The baby is perfectly well. I feed him myself sometimes. His mother has a little nourishment still, but not enough. He is very good and does not worry at all or grow frow. Lets his dinner from a spoon. winds up with a little dessert from his

mother and then goes to sleep. I had a letter from
Charles this morning. He is well, finishes
his school Friday. I think I shall go
after him myself. Maybe he and Deline
will go out together. We are not in want
of anything. Mrs Clark came back and
has been with us for a week.

Mrs Wain is quite well - Mrs Clark asks
for her daughter - How does she - I hope
do you like each other!

My love to all, My colt was not injured
he is waiting at the door getting a little
restless ^{as} his mother does sometimes from
waiting -

Your Affectionate Son
T. W. C.

Augusta Feb. 8, 1856.

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My dear brother

My school closed last night and here I am at the Arsenal where I intend to remain till Monday when you may expect me at Brunswick.

I left off one day sooner than I intended, thinking I would go to Leeds. My school also appeared sorry the last day had arrived. The girls seemed to feel it incumbent upon them to shed a tear or two. W^m A. Merrill won both prizes. Some thought too bad that one person should receive both, but no great dissatisfaction. I received my pay for 10 weeks minus two days one of them being the Monday I spent at Augusta. It was very hard to part from my friends there this morning. Edward Wiggin brot me down this morning & just before I came to the gate of the Arsenal I met Otis with his colt starting for Vassalboro.

I got into his sleigh & rode back
to town to see the colt travel. He
is now well trained & travels steadily
and prettily. Dellie had just arrived
and almost as soon as I had shaken
hands, who should drive up to the
door but father? He looks natural
and left mother well. I have concluded
not to go to Leeds as I could not well
return to take the cars to Brun. Mon.
forenoon. I was very glad indeed
to receive your letter from Br. I
should want to return very much
did I not know that I must study
very hard especially on the Algebra.

I have had a long relaxation
tho' now & should be ready to begin
with renewed energy. Dellie don't
want to go to Leeds but will be
obliged to go with father. Otis &
father went to Lowell this afternoon.
I should like to meet you at the depot
next Mond. forenoon. Your Affectionate
Rowland B. Howard, Brother Chas. H. Howard

Kennelbee Arsenal Augusta
February 20th 1858

Dear Mother,

I fear you may be unnecessarily
anxious about us if I neglect to write you longer.

Lizzie is very comfortable. Her system has
been completely prostrated, but, though all her
flesh or a great portion of it has left her, and
consequently very much of her strength, she
is gaining gradually. She does not sit up much
longer than to have her bed made, but her pulse is
getting stronger and more regular and I am in
hopes to see her on her feet soon. Poor girl she
has been perfectly courageous all the time. Little Guy
grows, is well, fat as he can be. He is now nine weeks
old. He laughs and plays with us all. What could
we have done, if father had not sent us that New-milk
cow. We have milk in plenty. Guy has the stippings.
Mother Wash - I think there is great virtue in stippings.
We have had two grand channings, but have brought
no butter; one before Dottie left & one since. Every
Expedient has been tried but to no avail. How does Dottie

prosper since his return. I could ~~at~~ be with him
or show him so much attention as I should if
he had visited me when Lizzie was well.

I have not heard from Charlie since he went to
Brunswick. Heard through Della that Howland
had sore eyes - His friend Wing said he had
wetter him & asked if it was a fact - that he
had caught sore eyes. How do you all at
home - Is Mary ^{any} homesick than she was -
Her Mother is still with us & likely to remain
some time longer - It troubled her considerably
to think Mary was so poorly contented at Lud.
Now that she has got acquainted she can't help
liking. ^{Age} ~~Is~~ Lawrence & her little boy still with
you? How is Roland & his wife - How she
moved to the other house?

Lizzie wanted me when I wrote to give her
love & say that she wanted you to put a piece of
the cloth of your cloak in a letter and send it
to her. Mrs W- is in perfect health. I still hope
we will be able to visit you -

Affectionately your son
O. C. Howard

Rule for solving an equation of the 2nd degree involving but one unknown quantity.

1st Reduce the equation to the form $x^2 + 2px = q$
in which x is the unknown quantity: $2p$ any known coefficient of x
and q the known term.

2nd Write out the value of x — It is equal to the square
root of the sum of the known term & the square of $\frac{1}{2}$ the coefficient,
of $x \pm \frac{1}{2}$ the coefficient of x

A. B. — $2p$ may be positive or negative, a whole number or a fraction
or also $-q$

Then if you had this equation $x^2 - 4x = 5$, you perceive
 $2p$ would be represented by -4 / Follow your rule

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \sqrt{5 + (-2)^2} \pm 2 \\x &= \sqrt{5 + 4} \pm 2 \\x &= \sqrt{9} \pm 2 \\x &= 3 \pm 2 \\x &= -1 \text{ or } 5\end{aligned}$$

Kennebec Arsenal Augusta Maine
February 21st 1856

Dear Mother,

Since I wrote you I have received two
letters from you. Lizzie gains every day. She now
sits up nearly all day and Gey continues well —
As soon as Mrs Clark heard that Mary had re-
covered she wished to go home to spend the day —
She had been before — She was getting a little
conceited & forgetful. Thinking about her family perhaps.
I told her she could go & when she got undy I paid
her & told her she need not come back — The next
day we sent to Windsor & got a girl for the kitchen.
Baby loves the baby days & I take care of him nights.
He sleeps in his cradle — wakes up once or twice in the
night to have his bottle or nurse and then goes to
sleep. This girl that we got has been a tailor's & dress-
maker & makes us a most excellent girl-servant.
I think we get on better since Mrs Clark left, for the
kitchen work is done without Lizzie's taking any care
about it & she now better sleep nights because she knows

The baby will not be neglected. A gentleman in this town wishes to buy my colt if he will make a saddle horse. I am training him for such now. I ride him nearly every day. He is now well worth all I ask for him. I think if I could get any other horse here I could dispose of him to good advantage, for Augusta is quite a place, for good horses to be appreciated.

I have heard from Rowland & Charley lately. As soon as Lizzi gets well I shall go down & see them if I do not stop more than our one train. I think some of going to Troy & returning, shall if I decide to bring Meloch, my horse on. He is now an expense again. Here the expense would be so little that if I remained three months it would refund all my travelling expenses on and back. I have not decided yet. My love to all at home. Our folks had begun to scald the milk, but think it will be better to follow out your suggestions - Lizzi & Mother send their love -

Your affectionate Son

(C.O.) Howard

Dear Ellie,

I solved your problem as soon as I got your letter. I have the honor herewith to enclose the solution.

$$\begin{array}{lcl} (1) & x^2 + y^2 = 100 & \text{Square the 10 as indicated} \\ & & \text{\& the equation becomes} \\ (2) & \frac{xy}{2} = 24 & \text{Multiply equation (2) by 4} \\ & & \text{both members \& it becomes} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} x^2 + y^2 = 100 \\ 2xy = 96 \end{array} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{Add these} \\ \text{equations} \end{array}$$

Reduce the value of x from Equⁿ (2)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{xy}{2} &= 24 \\ xy &= 48 \\ x &= \frac{48}{y} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{hence } (x+y)^2 &= 196 \\ x+y &= \sqrt{196} = 14 \end{aligned}$$

$$y = 14 - x$$

$$\frac{48}{y} = 14 - y$$

$$48 = 14y - y^2$$

$$\text{Transpose \& obtain } y^2 - 14y = -48$$

$$\text{Complete the square } y = \frac{14 \pm \sqrt{49 - 48}}{2} = 7$$

$$\text{hence } y = 1 \pm 7$$

$$\text{or } y = 8 \quad \text{or } -6$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \frac{48}{y} \quad \left(\text{Substitute the value of } y \right) \\ x &= \frac{48}{8} = 6 \\ \text{or } x &= \frac{48}{-6} = -8 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{The answers then are } \begin{cases} y = 8 \\ x = 6 \end{cases} \text{ or } \begin{cases} y = -6 \\ x = -8 \end{cases}$$

This solution depends on the principle that the square of a binomial is equal to the square of the first term plus twice the 1st by the 2nd plus the square of the second - for example. $(x+y)^2 = x^2 + 2xy + y^2$. The second step is to deduce the value of x from two different equations & place their values equal to each other - Affectionately Your brother, C.O. Howard