

I earnestly feel that it is only considerations for your welfare & the welfare of the Gospel that keep me from saying the things I would say.

lowly & meek for them" is the work - the great indispensable work of every one of Gods ministers. That is to be my work. "Feed my lambs" is the command of Christ. "This is pure religion & undefiled", says Paul. "to visit the widow & the fatherless". This is my work. This is Elias work. O that you & Aggie might devote your little that lives to the same. Hee that is greatest among you let him be your minister. I & you servant, a laborer, a drudge (if I may so say) in Eves Earthly Vineyard. Entreat the Seminary with me this fall. You will be in the "work" very soon. You don't have to wait to "graduate". I never speak of the life of domestic enjoyment that you will secure. If you can't do it for Christ, don't do it. Where can all my talents, my gifts, my attainments, & my powers be most available under God for good? That's the question. Wealthy poverty has nothing to do with it - if it had, I would have stayed where I could make money - in the "land of the living". Gods promises are the same to his humble faithful children in the 19th Century as in the 1st. We may live the lives of Peter & James, John & Paul & we shall be fed & supported by the same bountiful hand. Trust in God for everything - faith - faith - faith. The allusion is the minimum bonus - the ne plus ultra. The all.

Horribly considerations almost make me leave your profession & go to the mountains. I don't know how to get on.

17. Halliwell Aug 17 1858
My dear Mother
None of the 13th & 14th letters have been received - the latter tonight I should have answered the former before but I didn't know about the "Leave". Your note so indefinitely as to the time you would come if it was granted that I almost expected to see you immediately. But as this is silent on the subject I will write & risk it. Not much will be lost anyway. I supposed you had read all of my letters when you wrote first. It now appears that you have not. I don't think it is much more than a hotly yearning inward you & Aggie that makes me want you with Charles & I. If you feel that you ever go with Mother, I have attended the Methodist meetings & loved them dearly but I didn't quite feel one of them as they are here - neither can I conceive of your being so, without a slight pang of regret. I don't think it is their social position

that occasions this feeling - for if I know
my own heart & interpret rightly the work
of Grace there performed - I would be anything
a nothing, so far as this world is concerned
So that I follow ~~the~~ Christ & live ~~up~~ up to
the light of Conscience. With many sincere,
Deep, Earnest Christians among our
Methodist Brethren here - the prevailing
tone is superficial. To this conclusion
I have reluctantly come. Among them, to be
sure, you may have greater opportunities of
doing good - by accomplishing a deeper and
more persuading piety. But, there is a
general tone & influence to such a large
body that overcomes us, in directness,
like gravity. If you are, among them,
perfectly in fellowship and at home -
join them & may God bless you & make you
useful. The Church that I believe to hold
to free & universal grace - leave every one
that thirsteth & drink. That is what I shall
preach as she holds my tongue. In Church
Government - Methodism is set forth to a
degree - Congregationalism - Republican - You
will be satisfied of this on investigation.

Some other things - especially their doctrines of
the Holy Spirit's influence on the preacher's
teacher's heart - as developed by William Cullen
in the "Tongue of Fire" - I love. We cannot
depend too much on God & too little on
Learning, Intellect, Morals &c. - "Except ye
repent and become as little children".
It is in the most simple, unassuming, and
childlike faith that we find the highest
types of Christian character & feel the most
& purest enjoyment in our hearts. There
is the way - walk ye in it. I sometimes
think that if Religion ^{is} a pyramid
where base ^{is} the Church militant, &
where apex ^{is} the throne of God & that the
nearer Churches & individual Christians are
to the Summit - the nearer they are to each
other. "When that great Company shall stand
"on the Right Hand". They must be in little
knots & cliques but like a herd of timorous
sheep - all conjoined in one glorious ex-
emption & still more glorious hope. They will,
as one, watch the eye of their great Shepherd.
How I feel much upon my forehead will
be the question? To seek out the poor and

Admonition Report sent
Brookline Mass. August 2/57

My darling wife,

I will not write you much this evening, for I am to speak before a large assembly tomorrow, & I want to prepare myself. I was greatly disappointed last night in not getting a single line from any of you & I can hardly account for it unless you have come to the conclusion that I am on the way home. I hope indeed that all is well. I am almost afraid to write for the next mail, though I put my trust in God & He will strengthen my hands. I am going to hear a Presbyterian this afternoon. Rev. Mr. Brown. He came to see me yesterday. I invited him - being a stranger preacher to walk over with me. He was taken sick with the chills & fever, and lay on my bed nearly the whole day. I opened the Sabbath school this morning by reading & prayer, addressed the children for a little while & then passed my class. He had but a few minutes between the Sabbath school & the morning service, so I didn't get any opportunity to write.

I am still holding on my way rejoicing in the mercy & strength of my Redeemer. I do many many wrong things, but unwillingly, for I would not

for the world lose the love of Christ. I supports me
and prepares me beautifully for the vicissitudes of
life & we all know that by it we are forgiven &
accepted in Heaven. I am still hoping to get
a team by and by. I have owned an empty
tomorrow I will equip another. & there are
five others already on the way & perhaps more -
but I expect August will be far spent before
I can have any certainty of getting off. Oh! how
much good it would do me to see you &
our darling little ones - Grace & Joy. Give them
our love. Pray for me in all my labors, that
I may never forget God, but walk in His ways
at all times & in all places. I always pray
for you & no doubt you do for me. Last night
as I felt sad to think I could not get a word or
line, I went to see the minister & went with
me to the house of a young widow lady, where
we found a brother of hers from some other
place. We had a pleasant conversation & as usual
I was invited to read & pray with them. I am
not puffed up by this for it is Christ that has
given me so much of His grace, that brethren &
sisters in the Lord recognize me as a fellow-
worker. I am in good health I wish I could
leave as much from you. My love to my
dear mother & to all at home. My God bless
& protect you.
Your loving husband
C. C.

be late enough, I could write much about these
 dear little children, but I will let that be
 till I am stronger, I am quite well though
 but have to be careful, Bowland left me a little
 book "Anglo Voices" full of thoughts, I don't
 read much. I save my strength to take care
 of the children, and my eyes to write to you,
 you don't know how well I get along
 with them: it is all pleasure to take care
 of them and no trouble, they are both good
 children, and the spirit of the Lord is with
 me always, baby is my little daughter, I don't
 know as I shall call her Grace, although it
 means so much and speaks to my heart, Gay
 loves her so much and kisses her often, does
 not object to it, when I say, "No, I must take
 little sister", Ella has not written me yet
 but Bowland said she intended to do so,
 I have become acquainted with Mrs. Hinckley
 of Calais, I like her much, she attended the
 convention at Bath, (Congregational), I feel
 the sympathy you speak of ^{with} between Christians,
 I hope Mrs. Lathrop may not be as anxious about

Mrs. L. I love my little daughter, I have the first day of July, the mother, Bowland
 and cousin (John
 "Trust" are with her
 I hope she will be
 she will be a very
 woman now. She has
 is a good conversation
 man and I think not
 you from his brother
 wrote a very good letter
 to Bowland, which he
 the latter remained
 to me.
 (Charles has of course
 come frequently, and
 my wife is to go
 to N. P. I think
 of leaving before the
 week, I hope so, I
 like to see you very
 much, I will write as
 often as I can, I
 may write before of 9
 that I have of 9
 had off my eyes
 might be of 9
 I hope you will miss my
 attention, and I wish I could write more and
 often. When I get ready to write to you I think
 of so many things that I wish to communicate
 to you that I am at a loss what to write first
 and if I begin to write then in course I
 forget half before I express one idea. I received
 two letters from you last Wednesday mailed the
 19th and 16th of July, and I got another last
 Saturday. Now I would like to answer all three
 at great length, but so I cannot. I write so
 much, and mail the letter in any season I shall
 be obliged to answer some questions readily and not
 give all my reasons. I don't like to do so
 either for you may misunderstand me, if I
 don't explain. I love my husband, and he
 is particularly near me some days, but I
 don't feel as you do, to talk with ^{and hope} so many

about the 'love of Christ' and when you speak of
the talents God has given you, not dearest think
them greater than they really are. I don't want
you to be too fast. You are generally more en-
thusiastic than I am and come to conclusions
sooner, but in this case in a case of so much
importance as this we should well consider
what we are about to do before we act. I
wish you to act there just as you would
were you living at any other place, and in any
society you have ever known. At Church I
think you ought to be one of the congregation
than otherwise. I am very glad you take part
in the Sabbath School. I wish I could do the
same and I would like to attend a female
prayer meeting, do you know that the Ladies
have one at Tampa? Portland asked me if I
would like you to become a Minister. I told
him I feared there would be too many ministers
in the family. I hope you do not get the idea of
it seriously. I don't feel ^{now} that I could do
my duty as a Minister's wife. I can be a
good Christian and do all in my power to promote

the cause and serve God faithfully and still go
on in the same way continue in the same way, and
"do it for the glory and honor of God and not
to please myself." I shall not be baptised as
^{that is just as good and dear to me now as afterwards, that is only to be known publicly as a Christian}
yet, when I have interpreted the Bible to
my best ability, then I shall be ready to
join with the denomination that is nearest
or agrees with my interpretation of it.
I could have waited for you, and un-
doubt you could not wait for me.

I have been looking forward to our joining
the Church, and the baptism (for the first
time) together, but now half that
pleasure is gone, if it is a wrong thought
I pray I may get over it. I wish I was
with you for I fear I have erroneous ideas
and need your advice and counsel, I don't
think you will be able to get a leave
and if you wish I don't see any objection
to my going without you. I could get someone
to go with me, as soon as the weather is suitable
- or rather it is late enough in the season. I
should say by the first of October would

Wishes as I was about you when I learned
you were out to find the Indians. All that
time, without knowing why, I prayed "O God
be merciful unto me, and send me no greater
affliction". I have written you one letter before
this, and mailed one to Aunt Sarah ^{these are all I have} _{written} today. ^{her} She
is a good Christian and prays earnestly that her
husband may see the errors of his ways, & let
us help her, and pray for him. We all need to be
remembered at the throne of grace. I know you
do not forget me and the children, and others.
I must write to Bouland soon. Charlie will
be home Saturday and I think some of
going to Lewiston next week, but continue
to send letters to Leeds. I must make a
change in my dress, and must go as soon
as I think I can without risk, so I can
afterwards go out here. Doe thought, but
the "Yard's well" be done. I received another
letter from you yesterday (Wednesday) mailed 22^d
you see I write this letter by a few sentences, at a

The only thing I have to say is that I have to go to the office and see the children and the other things that I have to do.

time. Again I will add a few lines with Guy by
my side and baby asleep on the bed. I will
snore this tonight. But I have not written
half I would like to. If I have offended
you too much, and to cause you to feel
unpleasant, I shall wish I could look
over your shoulder while you read, to kiss
away all the unpleasant feeling, and tell
you not to think me too naughty. I desire
to do right, and wait on you. That God
may watch over us and direct us in all
things is the prayer of your little wife.
Lizzie Howard
Evening. Della has been gone all the week selling station-
ery, came home tonight, passed the P.C. and brought me another of
your most welcome letters, dated July 26th. You seem anxious
not to have heard from any of us since July 30th. I think it is
too bad to have neglected you so. I wish I had tried to write
sooner. Col. Gilman when he heard the letter read said you ought to
have been written to. Every day my desire to be with and work
with you grows stronger and stronger. I want to be with you
that you may better know me, and these dear children.
You know not what two beautiful children we have got.

myself that has narrowed the capacity of my
soul; but it will grow if I keep close to my
Saviour & resist evil constantly. How are our
wandering little ones? Would I could see you now -
I'm sure for paper. He will sustain some day
Manner permits, Colonel Belton, has come
to take command of the 4th Artillery, to which
he has been assigned by promotion. He has
the reputation of eminently pious I believe.
He is a Catholic, talked with me for two or
three hours this morning. He said his prayers
in my office today noon. I read my chapters
aloud & prayed. Capt. Martin was here. Colonel
Belton is an old man tottering with age or disease,
but he has great knowledge & great benediction.
I tried hard to avoid controversy, for I would
not talk about the Redeemer & pure religion.
The supreme authority of the visible church is
the burden of Col. Belton's talk, as it is to a great
extent, of the priests of his persuasion. Though
he must believe us heretics, still, my darling, it
don't hinder us from the sweet communion with
our Lord. Tell me if you love to have me write
about these things. My love to Mother & all -
I have read to Mother, but my heart is with
you & I am conscious of greater love for my wife
now that I am learning to delight in God, My
Mother & My Redeemer. May he continue to bless
you. My sweet wife & our little children
your loving husband

79
Columbus Depot
Fort Brooke Fla.
August 6th 57

My darling wife,

I have been obliged this
afternoon by company to delay writing till this
time five o'clock and I am sorry, you shall
have hardly time to finish before dark. I have
heard from you yet but I am expecting good
things from the mail tonight. I will tell you
something of what I have been about since I wrote
you. I went to church at 4 & heard a good sermon
from the parable of the virgins. In the
evening I felt somewhat depressed in spirits. The
church was crowded full. I read, prayed & took my
text the Spirit of God seemed to be with me &
I spoke for upwards of an hour I think, truly &
earnestly & trust God blessed the effort, if I looked
to men for commendation I would be gratified,
but I had to struggle to think that I had not
& could not accomplish aught except by the
help of my Redeemer. I tried to say some words
in my journal, read a chapter, asked for the continued
blessing of God & had a pleasant sleep. On Monday
I went with Mr. Lyon to visit the sick. First we went
to see Mrs. St. Just, who has a bad fever, was invited
to read & pray. She seemed in better spirits when we

Left. Went then to the house of Mrs Clark. She is about
your age & has a little babe. I was invited in, &
though I had not seen her before, I could not help
talking to her about you. She has been reduced almost
to the verge of the grave by the chronic Diarrhea.
We talked about the Saviour, his love & his mercy.
She says she delights in talking about such things -
Oh you should have seen her, how perfectly resigned
how perfectly happy. I did not know how sweet this
love of the dear Redeemer could make anybody at
such a time. They say she is now convalescing. She
invited me to read & pray. In the evening I went with
the minister to a large encampment of volunteers -
two miles distant. Capt Harder, a Christian, had
invited Mr Sime to preach for them & me to go
along. The prospect was rather unpromising, for
many volunteers were drunk, but at Capt H's
encampment were gathered quite a large ^{company} ~~number~~ of
After Mr Sime closed his good discourse, I addressed
them as a brother soldier & presented out to them
what they must soon encounter & strive to lead
them to the Saviour. Some 15 or 20 Christians
showered them & took the minister's hand & some
30 or 40 who had not known God came forward
with tears streaming down their cheeks many of them,
seeking for mercy. Last night, I was asked to speak
again at the Church, to fill the place of one, whose
appointment had been given out but did not get
home. I took this passage, "They shall see his face &

his name shall be in their forehead." I felt called
in the pulpit this time & earnestly pointed the way,
as best I could by God's help to Him & to Him. This
morning I issued arms & accoutrements to another company
of volunteers. I have got eight more to supply. I presume
you are anxious to see me home & my new
thoughts I was on the way, but you must not
expect it right away, too strongly. Colonel Lewis
goes to Fort Myers tomorrow and I shall probably
have to wait for his return before I can press
my application for a leave. I would not like
to be disappointed altogether, but I am in the
hands of Providence. Much has been done by
my remaining both for the strengthening me in
my Christian faith & character, & that others
might come out to the honor of God & their
salvation about a Saviour. All things are ordered
by the divine will & that what will come me must
cheerfully submit. The sinner resists & will not close with
the offers of mercy, but God is God over all. I hope
you don't think me presumptuous & too forward, for
I desire from the bottom of my heart to be just
such a Christian as God would have me be.
Pray for me, darling, that Christ may cleanse me, continually
from all lurking & lurking sins. I delight in being
conscientious of fighting in the Army of my Master &
Lord. I know I love my Saviour, though my heart is
not big enough & I am not half grateful enough
for his blessings. It is a continuance in the service of

understands his meaning. We stayed my
a short time at the Quaker station we
came back took up by the door
of Mrs. Foss & saw Corwin & Mrs.
L. & Mrs. I lots of little ones, one of
which wanted the little boy to get
out very much & cried she we rode
away. They are pretty well there though
poor S. is not perfect well. They had
heard you were here but long since. Had
5 letters at one time.

The mail letters for you the
one which I suppose probably I ought
told you she was going to I must
Monday. John N. was here tonight. He
is very anxious about his office.
Garry is trying his best to be kept
of funds for the next 5 years. I
should not wonder if he is supplanted
John. I suppose will stay a while as
well as S. I shall go down with him
to help about the children. She
looks harder as ever & more than
that has now a heart fight in the
right of God. I wish to be ever near
my Saviour & will you pray for me
to this end. Your affectionate brother
Chas. N. Howard

100
Goods Aug. 8th 1854.
Dear Mother Otis
You see I am at home once
more and will take this first opportunity to
answer your good letter which I received
just before Commencement. I have him in
hopes you were coming home but suppose
from what I suppose says that I shall not be
throwing a letter away by directing it to Sampa.

You will be glad to hear just that I
am in perfect health. I came home last
night about 4 1/2 o'clock. I dined with
her in the bed room with a cheerful con-
versation. Little Guy walked along by her
side & looked a little tired at first
but I remained to get acquainted with
her when he saw the table & saw it was
lunch. Of course I did not right
in to the north room to see the little
baby. I found her asleep and the bed
with the cover over her bright blue
eyes as good naturedly used for a
week. When the baby the Guy used
to sit her eyes. There is round her eyes.

be very beautiful one of these days if
the lines & thrives. Lizzie says she
is just as pleasant as ever Guy was
& never seems to be sick. Mother is
better than usual I think. Father is
at work hard every day paying. It
seems rather too bad for him to
appear to hard now he is so old.

I slept with Rowland Thursday night
at Mrs. Fort's in Spokan. He &
Ellie came up to Benewick Tuesday
& were present during the exercises
Commencement day & heard Edward
Everett speak Thursday afternoon.
The class consisted of 86 - the largest
that ever graduated - The speaker
did as well as usual. But the
oration of Mrs. Everett was splendid.

It seemed to be the most finished
piece of oratory throughout & it
was delivered with grace & elegance
superior to anything I ever saw. It
occupied about two hours & I sat a
hour & a half writing for the paper
except I drew thoughts of being
tired - I pause for a light. It is
Saturday night - pleasant now but looks like rain.

Commencement day was rainy but the
other days were pleasant. I did
not attend & enjoyed it much on
Sunday Eve. Perhaps Rowland will tell
you about his stay at Benewick &
I had better tell you about Lou &
myself. I was delighted to get the
letter from you. I had read some of
Rowland's but had not had one of my
own since the glorious change. Oh
my God bless you & me & all of us
with an abundance of grace. Would
that the Holy Spirit might strike the
populations of our hearts & then we
could have no place there.

Lizzie rode up to the Coar's
with me about Christmas this afternoon
& called on her at Solomon Cottrop's.
Lizzie says she likes Mrs. Cottrop &
Albin & Willie very delight & the
little Guy who had had his
with him & I gave up set before
his mother & me as great a
pleasure. He talks a great deal - his
mother always encourages his talking &
though he speaks words only & does
not attempt to form sentences yet it

May be as before that I cannot be spared. I told the Colonel I might be ordered away. He said he intended to keep me, or "that they had better not do that". I don't like to apply to Washington over his head, but may do so by & by. I think I shall get through crossing the New Regiments this week. I could do it in two days if the Company was more here, but two of them have not yet come. My quarterly papers for 2nd Quarter ending June 30, go off by this mail. Those we retain & the copies we send to Department Head Masters here, are not quite done, & my monthly papers for July are not yet commenced. I now have two clerks, a Master Armorer, & Corporals (entirely) and one hired black man. And I assure you, we have had to move pretty rapidly sometimes the past week. One forenoon we armed & equipped some two hundred & fifty men & everything passed through my hands, with a few exceptions. Wasn't I tired though? Good by my sweet wife & darling babes - God bless you & give you much of his sweet comfort & peace. In his own good time we will join hands & hearts to give them thanks - My Love to Mother & Brothers. I wrote to Rowland yesterday. I pray for you, that I be kept spotless from the world. Your affectionate & ever loving husband,
O. H.

I never go to Church as yet. I prefer a sermon on
Practical - The people
brought to him
And by a good
and only on
the subject
of Religion -
A young friend
of mine from
Jacksonville
In that - heard
last night say
his brother had
been building
followed by lightning.
C. H. from his
any in church
which
August 9.
with some
at the
8
the
The

My dearest wife,
It seems very strange, but I presume you have expected me so strongly of late that you thought it not worthwhile to write; but I thought I told the true state of the case soon after the letter that said, "I thought Colonel Lewis would let me have a leave". I have now looked in vain for a line from home for seven or eight mails. It grieves me a little because you, my darling, were very ill the last letter Rowland wrote me. I don't hear from Mother, Mary, baby or anybody. If this letter gets home do have somebody write a few lines or if you are all well & can get away from two little ones long enough - say that all is well. I heard a sermon this morning from Mr. Sime, on the text, "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God". And it a glorious & delightful thought that those whom Christ has cleansed shall see him face to face and soon be ashamed to hold up their heads & take him by the hand, for they are his children. I was acquainted to class for Mr. Sime; so I made a few remarks & read the hymn & made the last prayer. I wish you could be here or I there with you that

we might partake of this great joy together. When I used to speak for praise you did not think I was of much consequence; but Christ, My Saviour is in my heart. He speaks, He urges sinners to flee from "the Wrath of God & the Lamb." He comes to me & helps me. He wants me to speak. I used to love to speak for show, & for the pleasure it afforded me to see rapturous, eager listeners, & for the sympathy. Now I can only afford to see an opportunity to testify to the truth. I love to talk of My Saviour's Mercy & Love, I love to point to Heaven, and talk about these things, not in a weeping & desponding style, but as cheerfully as we ever have talked about our future earthly prospects. I wish I could hear from you so as to know if you like to have me write letters all filled up with Religion. You may think I do nothing else but talk & think about the Religion of Jesus Christ. Well in fact, there seems like the feeling, "God is with you all the time", but it does hinder me from a clear head in the transaction of business and does keep me from talking of other things. This is the burden of my thoughts most of the time, when not especially engaged otherwise - for I am but a learner & have now to read & study God's word to find out what my duty is. Now there are many things you might want me to write upon. I might have given you & Howland a more faithful history of

what has been occupying me everyday since I embraced Religion, but I am afraid of talking so very much about myself & what I have seen & done. I would do all for the honor of Christ & hope my pride may be brought into subjection. I can hardly imagine you a real "benevolent" Christian, but I thank My Heavenly Father, that He has given you so much grace. I am rejoiced that the new birth came when it did; that you could rejoice even when affliction's hand was upon you. God grant you this true courage from on high always. Whenever any burden is to be borne, any suffering to be endured, they will O! God, & not mine, be done. Our meetings will be delightful, if ^{God} pleases us till death takes place. O! the little ones! I took up Mrs. Payer's little baby this morning, a sweet little thing, just beginning to creep. It reminded me of our little daughter. A little boy at the Hotel two or three months older than Guy, brought him forcibly to mind. I still think I shall go home for you & bring you down. I don't well see how you could manage without me. I shall try for a leave. I will write you so that you can get the news in time not to be too suddenly surprised, but I don't want you all to stop writing me till I write you that I am surely coming. If I put in an application for a leave it don't make it that I will get it, for it

What say to lecturing up my studies
 with me this fall? I chose Mangor
 Seminary - in preference to Andover - North
 Princeton or any other - because it is a better
 place to make a minister & develop & perfect
 the man. The studies are easy & if you do
 not study for the first six months you
 could easily "make up". You might remain
 in the service a year & enter a year in
 advance. Hear you & Hippie - suppose you
 are willing enough to live on till you
 are settled - you would be sure to be
 so three years from this time? The records
 of the two first Classes at Mangor are
 already engaged. Your talents & schol-
 arship - I am sure would place you
 in the first rank & above all, a deep faith
 would elevate you far above any earthly
 estimate. Would not the field that
 would open before you after such a prepa-
 ration be the best - call on culture to draw
 you out & make the most of you in doing
 God's work? How happily might you
 and your family spend two years living
 quietly & peacefully at a new Mangor -
 all of you trying to please God & not man.
 Mr Simon Page & Mr Kilman often speak of
 you. Every body here honors you by memory
 a reputation - this letter is short - but

will write again when I have news from my office & friends in Vermont

Aug 10th 1857
 Keellwell ~~XX~~ # 176

My dear Mother
 I was very glad to hear from
 you so soon again - I found your letter here
 on my return from North Saturday night.
 You will find some allusion to some
 of the topics you broach in this, in my
 long letter now in its way to you.
 Where can I do the most good under
 God? is the question - Is it in the Army - like
 "Honor among your brother officers & soldiers,
 or is it by preaching the word of God? Can
 you look forward to a life in your present
 profession as a life of duty & therefore of
 satisfaction & contentment - I felt that
 my home was in the pulpit & that
 I would always feel homesick in the "Law".
 Where will God be most glorified? Where
 will your own graces & gifts be most
 developed & above all, where will the
 most souls be saved. One soul is just
 as good as another. Where can you gather
 the most of these jewels for our Master?
 Your Classmate Lowell preached for us yes-
 terday - He has just entered his last
 year at Bangor. He has quite a "talk"

About you - He is very rejoiced to hear of
your "change" & will write you just as
soon as he can get time - He is to preach
some where near Bangor during his Va-
cation which continues till Oct. He is
engaged to Louisa Benson - Lewis's daughter,
the spoke of your being there with Maria
was the man here with him yesterday -
I don't want you to be precipitate -
Olin. Don't act the Yankee nor the Southerner
now - but the slow calculating, common
sense Christian Englishman - Be careful
that your wisdom keeps pace with your
zeal - I am glad you loved meetings & have
"tells" - They must do good - I do it. Let
us do it in much humility, quietness
prayer & dependence on Christ - In your
disposition or mind it seems to me that
the Methodist school is the best for
our proper discipline - Ever pro-
cesses of teaching & preparing the mind or heart
of man for great labors & achievements
are usually slow - How slowly do all the
true lessons of life work their way into
us - Our hastily formed opinions have little
permanence - Our oft repeated experiences
always teach us mistaken lessons - reliable
trustworthiness - Let us try the Spirit & see if

it is of God - Wednesday 12th
Sallie came down Monday night from Leeds
and is to return Monday - Charles went to
Leicester with Leggie Monday - Sallie says
she seems quite well & very cheerful - She is
to stay at L. a fortnight - Mrs. Clarke has
gone - It seems almost as if the care of both
children was too much for her - but she
can get her sewing done at L. while she
is there - You have heard from her often since
she has been so well - & so you will have
later news than mine - I hope Sallie will
be at home till Sept. - Charles's vacation
is three weeks - His father is coming down
next Monday to court & I am in hopes
Mother will come with him - He is at work
hoping rather too hard for so old a man -
I fear - I do not know that our Commis-
sion has had any effect on Roland's father - I
hope it has made them "think on these things" -
If you do propose to preach, you need a
theological training - Greek, Hebrew, Composition,
Logic &c - you ought to understand - You
might preach a few good sermons without
but if we would last we must have re-
sources - These all hapless in the spirit of
truth & brought into subjection to the will
of God make the successful preacher of the

Sept. Aug. 12, 1859.

Dear Lizzie

I find a letter here from Ohio & will inclose with it this note to tell you about the frames.

I forgot about them when I left you. I want "Dunston" framed so as to correspond with our specimen.

9 3/4 inches long - 8 inches wide - gilt frame - the gilt 3/4 inch wide.

"Bourd. Coll." is for Nellie & I don't know what kind of frame would look best. Don't believe a gilt one would be so good as wood. Perhaps a mahogany frame of about the length & breadth of the picture as it is now would be best. Please to use your judgment. It will suit at any rate if framed in something not very costly.

I didn't see any books to speak of. Stayed at Weston's last night & came home this morning.

This note an excellent letter to Belle
at the same time with yours.

He is all engaged in a most glo-
rious cause. You can sympathize
& pray with him now. Oh Lizzie
I am so glad & will you pray for
me - pray that I may be kept very
near to Christ with his love to warm
& soften my cold & stony heart? Good
Bye Aunt Sister & Charles.

Mrs Howard, I met with Mrs Berry
last night and she said she could do
what was the you spoke of if you would
like to have her as she has got some
clothes made in the same way. If you
would like to have her make them
will you write a line and tell us
where to find them, direct to Mrs
Galmore as I am going away
yours in haste

— — — — — Rebecca
P.S. We would like to know whether Otho
said anything about a furlough in his
letter to you Lizzie — C. H. Howard.

The Love of Christ is dear to me, and he
is always near me, to give me strength.
I had the De Loks call to see me this
morning, hoping he can remedy another
trouble that has come upon me which
cause weakness rather than strengthen
the body. He will help me. I have
been on my feet too much. It is just
for my to take his rest, baby is asleep.
You give by this time may the Lord be
to us both every day is a part of the prayer
of your little affectionate wife.

Liz

Suburn. Me. Aug. 13. 1857.

My dearest Husband,

I fancy you received
my first letter by yesterday's mail. I know
you will be glad to hear from me, and I
wish I could write so often as I did formerly
but one long letter each week is as often as
I can send to you, dearest. I write in my
last letter that I thought of coming to Leiden
Charlie came down with me (in the carriage)
with the children last Monday. I do not
know how long I shall stay, but I wish
to be at Leeds the last week of Charlie's
vacation or I will not see him at all.

Tuesday I went to the Judge to request to have
Col. Silmore appointed Advisor to our estate,
I thought best to have him assist me in preparing
to say one else. Yesterday I engaged the Hack
to take my in the afternoon and called to see Mother
and the children. I found Aunt Martha
there, on her way home from Thomastown.

Aug 12 1857

528
Her health is very poor and the Physicians
advised her to go to the Sea shore, but
she could not be contented to stay there.
She is very nervous and change of scenes,
to keep her mind occupied, is what she needs
she does not seem to enjoy anything. I am
very sorry for her but I do hope she may
get better. A Miss Stackpole was there also
I imagine she is a relative. John seems very
kind, has a happy, cheerful countenance every
time I see him. I wrote to above this morning
and now it is evening and I will add
a little more. I received a note from Charlie
enclosing one of your welcome letters. He
said he received your letter to Dallis by the
same mail. I hope you got my letter yesterday
so that all feeling of anxiety for me has passed
away and you know me quite well. I should
like to have seen Dallis's letter to have known
more of yourself. Guy our say papa is at "Pampa"
and that he lives in the State of "Maine" and
in the Town of Leeds ("Eeds") and is "two" years
old. I am not going to tell you how much

he knows - much more than "Frankie" when
we saw him. I hope you will be able to
get a leave if you think best, but I tell
everybody I shall go to you this Fall if
you do not. What do you think of such
a decision without consulting you more?
but you said we should be together this
fall, and if you can't come for me, I
don't see how that can be, when I go to you.
The Children are well as good as they
can be. I have very little care of them here
left baby two hours and a quarter yesterday
and she was "just as good as a kitten" -
after calling at Shellen's I went over the
bridge and left Guy with Uncle Thinks while
Aunt H. and I went into some stores to
make some purchases for myself. I do not
feel quite as well to-day for being out
yesterday. I hear the nine o'clock bell, now
it is time for me to prepare for rest.
The Lord be with us all. I want try, pleasant
to write much more this morning but will
mail this as it is getting late in the week.

write you the few changes among
our officers, they are so old, and
have doubtless all been made
known to you by your good wife.
Benton you are aware is Ins.
of Art^y at West Point. I suppose
he will have charge, so far as our
Dept. is concerned, of the small arm
experiments - I think is with Hughes
at M. A. Foundry - McAllister
is at Richmond, Va. - Hill it is
said goes to California, but I
must stop on the border of your
picture, for speculation is safe
in every direction - I hope you have
your health, if you do not have
Ma. do send for Mrs. W., she will
enjoy that business climate so
much; but I hope if this sheet does
not find you in the land of flowers,
it will reach you in the still
quiet happiness of the family, either
in Maine or at West Point.
Mrs. W. sends kind regards -
Yours truly T. H. Ashley

Col. Soomis
Aug 14/57

New York Manual
Aug. 14. 1857

Dear Lieut.

Have you long since come
to the conclusion I have for-
gotten you & your long letter
of April 20th, which afforded
me so much gratification?
Not a bit of it. Not long after
your letter, came an order to
supply you with certain stores,
& I determined to give you many
shakes of my pen under cover
with the papers connected therewith.
This issue however seems
to be terrible to make, twice I
have had 100 cott's pistols in
outside cases, marked with
your address, & ready to be in-
voiced; where instructions from
our Chief have sent them else-
where, and to-day I have for the

third time ordered pistols from we will not have a single peg
the factory for issue to you to have a complaint on. All
you will hardly remain in inventors of broken back guns
Florida long enough to receive have a jubilee at West Point out
them, for I hear, unofficially, week, every body is invited, and
that Mr. Whiter & yourself I suppose the contest will be for
have been detailed for duty rapidly of trading & discharge, as
in the Mathematical Dept. at ensary, penetration, & range - There
West Point - This I hope may in to be a free fight & a selection
be true for your sake, for I from the victors for government
know your heart yearns to use - I have not heard the names
join that beloved family one of the Board, not a single name,
more - I cannot think the weather rumour however reports that
is as hot with you as with us at officers of every arm of service
present, tho' you have overtly more will be assembled on it - Care
of it; the sun is right down soon you received any reports from
ing & a little exercise or repose officers on both M. M. Rifles?
rather one in preparation - The If you have, I will be glad to
have very little summer thus far get copies, to learn their opinions
in 1854, none till after July 4th, show the arm voted under diffi-
and a weekly rain since has kept cultus - Do write me all the
us comfortable - If the yellow steam Particulars you may have
of last year does not visit us, on this subject - I scarcely dare

Commissary Joseph

Fort Brooke, Fla.

August 16th 1857

My darling wife,

Colonel Loomis has granted me a leave of 30 days, with permission to apply to the War Department for an Extension of two months. I will be ready to start next Thursday morning & may get to you as soon as this letter, but I think not, as I will ~~have~~ visit Newington on my way, in order to facilitate the extension.

I will not write much as we soon shall be together. I have been visiting them very low - near their graves, lately trying to cheer them, & read the Burial Service over a Volunteer who died, since I wrote you. This morning I spoke for Mr. Lynde from the 12th Chapter 1st & 2nd verses of the Hebrews. I feared I might not do well, for it becomes one to do well in these things, but the Spirit & Grace of God seemed to sustain me. I have promised to speak at the Encampment of Volunteers at 4 o'clock this evening & next Tuesday night at the Church. Since I turned Christian, I seem to have got hold of the hearts of the Christians of Tampa & I am glad. I must needs to talk much about my leave, but you may be assured I am glad to go, & will if all

is well soon be on my way - to my old home - to
my wife & little ones - It is so warm now
here that the perspiration drops off my face
while I am writing & my shirt rickbands are
wet through with the same - So as I shall
so soon have the pleasure of talking with
you face to face after you get this, if
Providence permits I will not say more
now - My love to all - God is true &
will go with me - May he bless you all -
Kin the boy & girl for yourself now as I am
not going to kiss them by proxy much longer

Very affectionately

Your loving husband

Olig

Healdsboro Aug. 17. 1857

My dear sister

I seize a moment
 this morning before "Lohol" to
 write you about Otis. If
 you have heard it will do
 us harm. Capt. Egan will
 see Saturday. that he reciev
 a letter from Preston a
 few days ago saying that
 Otis has been ordered to
 West Point. So you must see
 him before long unless he
 has to wait to be "relieved".
 I suppose he must be at
 the Point the 1st of Sept. I
hope to see Mother
 today or tomorrow. I hope
 she will come. I hope
 you were able to go to

meeting yesterday. I know
you will enjoy it so
much - Did the thaw arrive
safely - I have never heard
from it - If you can get
time - I wish you would
drop a note to dear Ellen -
She has long been wanting
to write you but - has felt
sort of "apaise" - Sisters in
Christ - may the day hasten
when you will be sisters in-
deed - All our friends are
well here - except Mr Gorges
& the Chilcher have been
down to the mouth of the River
& were going up in the boat -
Mr G. sent her love & congrat-
ulations - Remember me to
your friends and always us
Your very affectionate Bro-
Rivland

For letter no 7662:

C. H. Howard to Lizzie [Howard] Leeds,
August 17, 1857

See the letter attached to letter #745:

C. H. Mulliken to OOH, August 2, July 17,
1857

Ordinance Office
Washington, Aug 19th 1857.

Lt. O. C. Howard
Ordn Dept
Fort Brooke, Fla.

Sir:
Herewith you will receive
Special Order N^o 107 of 1857 assigning you
to duty at the Military Academy, and
directing you to proceed to that Post and
report to the Superintendent.

In compliance with said Order, you
will turn over to such Officer as the Comd'g
Officer of the Department of Florida
may designate for that purpose, the funds,
Books, papers & Property in your charge;
and, having accomplished this, you will
proceed as directed in the order above
stated.

Respectfully,
your obt Servt,
A. C. Craig
Act of Ordnance

By
Washington Aug. 19 1857

H. K. Erving
Col. of Ordnance

Salt

By
Ordnance's Spec. Order No 107 of 1857
Assigns Lieut. O. C. Howard ord. Dept
to duty at the Military Academy

06641
05
0691
051
0481
051
051
6691
6391
1549

Rec. at Fort Brooke Fla Aug 20th 1857

Dear Sir
I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter of the
10th inst. in relation to the
above mentioned matter.

I have conferred with the
proper authorities and they
are of opinion that the
same should be referred to
the Board of Directors for
their consideration. I have
the pleasure to inform you
that the same has been
referred to the Board of
Directors and they will
give it their attention
as soon as possible.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
Wm. C. Smith

Received of the
Cashier of the
Bank of the
City of New York
the sum of
Five hundred
Dollars
for
the
Account of
the
Board of Directors
of the
City of New York
this
10th
day
of
April
1854

Oldman's Depot

Fort Brooke Fla

Aug 14th 1854

My dearest Wife,

I will write you a few lines this evening, to let you know of my continued good health. I do hope I may get a letter this evening. I think you will have got rid of the expectation that I shall be soon right away, & written. My prospect of going home don't brighten much. I thought when I got the new Regiment, armed I might be spared. But there are several companies of independent organization to be mustered out & in again - and I fear that I will be needed all the time. Still I shall try to get off by & by. Now I wish you were here. I don't know as it would do to come at this time of year, but you can come a little later, the last of October or the 1st of November with safety. I cannot bear the idea of your taking the journey with two children without me along to assist you.

I will give you a few scraps from my diary since I wrote you (Sunday) I heard a sermon tonight from Mr Brown, the presbyterian minister, at the Methodist Church, from the text: "You fear to trust thy God." A very good and impressive sermon

God bless all the means of grace & mercy to the saving
of souls. I was invited to offer the closing prayer.
I read & prayed this evening with Mr Lyon & have
since returned to my room from his, there
committing all my cares, dear friends & whatever
may burden my little heart, to my Saviour who
bears all things for ungrateful me, & will go to
my rest. (Monday Aug 10) I have not smoked
today, but I feel that I have not exerted myself
much in any direction. My morning exercise was
pleasant, and so also the one at noon. Capt Hardie
Mr Lyon & two other gentlemen were present, but I
conducted the exercise. This evening I visited Judge
Turman's, went to Mr Lyon's room, then, to a sing
at the house of Mr. Grew. After the sing I read a
chapter with the family & prayed. I slept a good
while this afternoon. I think breaking off smoking
is the occasion in great part of my indolent feelings
today. I must study God's word more tomorrow.
Tuesday August 11. Had a pleasant morning
exercise. Capt Hardie & Dr. West were in my room
this morning. The Dr. has lost his brother by a
stroke of lightning. He loved him dearly and is
very deeply afflicted. I talked with him, read letters
to him & some of the life of Capt. Vickers. At twelve,
we had our exercise of reading the Scriptures &
prayer. I trust the Dr. went back to camp. Heaped praise
our conversation. I attended the prayer meeting this
evening. Colonel Formis led & his words were very

We marched about a mile to the north East on the Old
Fort Bassinger road & then turned to our left taking Capt
Marey's return trail. The course being one point to the West
of North. We proceeded about three or four miles on the
open prairie and then came to pine woods, quite open. We
kept in them for 5 or 6 miles and then came to an open
prairie again. Then we entered a beautiful country, interspersed
with hammocks & baygalls (thickly wooded small swamps)
From me cropped a small creek from which the men filled
their canteens with water. About ten A.M. we reached this
place. It began to rain hard & the Captain resolved to
encamp. It is a beautiful place. Facing northward we
have a high sandy ridge some 100 yds distant - a few
lifty pines where we are, a clump of mangroves in
blossom on our right, and a brook of excellent water
near by. We found a White flag standing here left by Capt
Marey two weeks ago, but undisturbed. No Indians had been
near it. We delayed putting up our tents in hopes the rain would
stop or moderate, but waiting a half hour in vain, we went
to work & pitched them in the rain. Fires have sprang up all
about the camp. The Indian children have been running
about naked in perfectly unconscionable innocence, while
their clothes were drying. They are not troubled about the morrow.
Now our meals do actually taste good after a long march & I
believe I am as contented & happy as if I was in a nice house. I
trust our Heavenly Father is pleased with our mission. If God
is for us who shall be against us? It is desirable to get an

early start so as to get into Camp before the rain, but it
commenced today earlier than usual, so we got a soaking
Friday June 26th. Was up at half past three this morning -
breakfasted a little before 4 - By half past 5 the umbrellas were
drawn, the tents & other baggage loaded and we were
ready for a start. Sampson (the Negro guide & interpreter) &
myself went ahead of the advanced Guard to look over the
route, in order to avoid boggy places &c. - After a time I
took the white flag & Sampson & I continued on ahead.
We marched West about 3 miles & then turned to the North
& have continued in this direction ever since. The first few
miles was low ground & quite boggy, but the great portion
of the country in this vicinity is high sandy ground -
We are now encamped near a small pond of water on a
high ridge & about 12 miles from the last night's encamp-
ment. I hope & trust we shall be successful in our
mission of Peace. I pray that God may grant us his blessing
if it comports with his will. I have just read four
Chapters in St. John, am reading the Gospels in course. It
was 4th of 5 P.M. & the usual rain begins to fall. but we
are now prepared for it. I have dug little trenches to let the
water run off from my tent & ~~the tent~~ ^{it} is on the southern
slope of a ridge. I have checked Sampson in cursing this
morning & talked with him about my faith in Christ.
And on the same subject, I conversed with Capt Brown
this evening. I talked a long time with Lu last night
after retiring, for we sleep in the same tent. I do hope God
will help me to present truth. &c. Good night darling &
must close. I didn't begin to write till late. God bless Lizzy & the
little ones - My love to all - I will mark the place in my diary where

Left off & continue next time - May this find you well & happy - Sam being in camp

Andover, Me. Aug. 23. 1857.

My dearest Husband,

I am here quite well to day and must write you part of a letter at least. I did not write last week, for Guy and I both were sick. Guy had the diarrhoea and I was quite worried about him. But he is better now and Dr. Do said it was partly caused by his eye and stomach teeth, that he is cutting. I came very near having a fever as before, but fortunately I escaped. Aunt Sarah took the very best care of me and yesterday I had a short ride in the hack. Now I hope to have no more draw-backs. Rowland wrote me a short note last week saying you were ordered to West Point.

I am very glad to get that, and you will have a great deal of time to study and a great deal of time to yourself, and to be with me and the children could you have chosen a pleasanter post? I shall not return to Leeds, till September, when Rowland and Ella will make a visit there; I shall

enjoy being with them. Charlie called to see me
last Friday and I told him I thought I better
not try to go to Leeds again so soon. But I would
like to have seen more of him. But as I am
not going away as far, it will not matter so much,
for he can visit us at West Point. How much
pleasure and happiness I am looking forward to.
Monday. I wrote the word Monday yesterday
but did not have time to write as I
intended for baby called. I really do not
have time to write you letters worth sending
I take proper care of the children and rest
myself and I don't seem to do anything
else. Col G. and Delle called to see us to-
day. Delle goes to Anderson next Monday
would like to see you as you pass.
I took Guy to a ride this afternoon in the
hack, gone one hour and baby was good
all that time. Col G. said that McAllister
also is ordered to West Point. The rest are
looking for you home right away, but
I shall not look but be so happy when
you come. Uncle and Aunt went out this

evening, but have now returned. I hear the
nine o'clock bell ringing and must now
go to rest. May we ever be guided by the
influence of the Holy Spirit in all we have
to do. Wednesday. I have just received
another letter from Rowland. How kind
he is to write to me so often. I must
send him a note for I cannot attempt to
write a letter. I am gaining every day,
but am not very strong. I go to ride
nearly every morning from nine to ten
o'clock. Guy is not perfectly well but
I will be thankful if he does not get
worse. Katie Gilmore is coming for me yet
I do not try to do anything towards saving.
Do not be anxious about me. I ^{am} but come to
your loving wife

Lizzie

among their troops. Perhaps God
has just exactly that work for
you to do. However, I ought not
to influence you one way or the
other in your decision - for of course
you know your own situation &
feelings - while I do not. But if
you do decide to enter the ministry
I can assure you of a hearty
welcome from our vacant pulpits
& our fasting congregations.

I should be very glad to
hear from you. I shall be here
some ten or twelve longer. After that
time a letter addressed to Winthrop
will find me. It is now vacation
at Bangor Sem. & I am here preaching
a few sabbaths under the Me. Miss.
Soc. I shall graduate next summer
if I live, & hope to be useful in some
corner of the Lord's vineyard. Write me
please - & tell me abt. yourself, your plans, &c.
I remember me always as your Classmate
& friend
Geo. S. Sewall

Mrs. Sewall
Aug 24/57

Brooks, Maine
Aug. 24. 1857

My dear Classmate,

I have recently
heard such good news of you
that I cannot forbear writing
to congratulate you. You can
now from your own feelings
judge how gratifying it is to
hear of souls converted - & how
peculiarly pleasant it is to
hear of friends coming into the
Kingdom. My dear Howard,
I most heartily congratulate
you on having at last "found
the pearl of great price" - the
treasure wh. I have no doubt
you have often wished to find
all your life. I had heard
the fact a short time before -

& three wks. ago I met your
brother Roland in Hallowell - &
he related to me more fully the
circumstances of your present
happy situation. I am right
glad that you still possess
the same bold determined energy
you used to have in college
(& wh. a military education I
imagine has by no means lessened)

& that you have come out
fair & square on the Lord's side.
I hope & pray that your
labors among the soldiers & blacks
may be continued, & be blessed of
our great Master. You are in
a position wh. opens to you a
grand career of usefulness - &
who knows but that God has
thus given you a vastly higher
Commission than you have

yet rec^d, or can receive, from
the War Office. Roland told
me you were debating the question
whether you should exchange
your present employ^t for the
ministry. I trust God will guide
you in the decision. No doubt
you w^{ld} be very useful anywhere
in the profession - but perhaps
God has more & harder work for
you to do in the army just where
you are. I had a brother officer
on board the Saratoga whom I re-
gard as an exemplary Christian -
& who told me he remained in
the Navy because he tho't there
ought to be living working Christians
in it, tho' he exceedingly disliked
the service. I doubt not the Army
just as much needs Christian
officers who shall "witness Christ"

Keellwell Aug. 25th 1857

My dear Fizzie

Charles wrote me yesterday that you have not yet returned from Auburn & that ~~the~~ the nurse forwards my other letter to you. He says you have been sick and are now quite feeble. I am very sorry, dear sister, to hear it & wish I could help you some way. Will I understand him correctly in saying that either Charles is again with you. I hope so & that you will be able to keep her to take care of the children some time yet. I was at Augusta this morning & saw Capt. Corgan. He says there can be no mistake about his "case". Charles says you have some doubt whether "such good news were true". His news will not get away from you soon enough to come to Maine before the "year" commences at West-Point & you may not see him for some time yet. but it will seem as if he were at home - must it. Just think. only two days for letters & you know all about his situation too! -

I can't help thinking what an opportunity he will have as a Christian minister of doing

as that - but I fear not -

He seems determined now to be like
some of the "Old trait" in his will -
I don't write Appie because, in your
present state of health I expect an
answer, tho' I should love to hear
from you but because I thought it
would make use of the moments. I
was pleased to have a letter from
your dear Mother
Removal.

Ellis's most intimate friend a Miss Spinger
of Topsfield has found a hope in Christ.
The "light" first broke in upon her
during a visit which they took together
last week - Thank our dear Father in
Heaven for his loving kindness & boundless
Mercy. He "willed not that any should
perish but all come to life" Remember
me dear Sister when you pray - R -

has thus made out
with much love & sympathy
& the children & remain your
affectionate Cousin

A. P. Lee

My love

New York Aug²⁹ 1857

Dear Cousin

I arrived this
morning from Boston & Luke
and found that the Goodell
was totally wrecked last
Tuesday night about 50
miles from here. The Mate-
rials arrived here to day
from her. I got a friend
of mine a Capt. Babage a
competent man to take the
vessel to Wilmington for
me intending to join her
there as soon as I had
finished up my business
here and the first night
he lost her owing to a
heavy gale & foggy weather
there is no blame attached

A him or any one on board

Mr. Bacon has \$2500.00 insured
on her outward freight which
ought to cover her expenses
I do not know how much he
has insured on your & Kingsly
quarters as he is not down
to day and so I have not
seen him. I am very
sory about the accident as
it had chartered for a good
voyage which would have
left a handsome balance
to the vessels credit.

I was in hopes to have seen
you at Leeds but you left
the day I arrived. I should
have written you before but
was expecting to go to Leeds
sooner when I should have
seen you. I received your
kind letter as you say dear

Mother has gone to a
happy home she was
very happy in the thought
and now is enjoying the
fruits of a Christian life
It is hard to part with her
but I feel that I could
not call her back to this
world of suffering & sin if
I could.

Silas will be here Thursday
morning I left him for
Leeds at Leeds they are
all well I saw your mother
Friday she said you left
Wednesday I go tomorrow
to the office to see if every
thing is saved and when
I return I will visit you
and shall know all about
the vessels account so
by that time Mr. Bacon

11
Ordnance Depot,
Fort Brooke Fla,
Augt, 30 '1857

Sir

I have the honor to inform you that no change has taken place here since you left. Yesterday I received a Requisition from Capt. A. Doubleday's Co. for 8 Muskets altered for Maynard's priming together with a lot of Accs. &c for the same which I put up in about one hour after the receipt of the Requisition, they were shipped immediately to Fort Myers. On the same day Recd. Another for 17 Colts pistols for Col. Dimicks Comd. at Fort Dallas required for Boat parties, pioneers, herdsmen &c. As those on hand were not & could not be put in proper order for issue to Regulars I came to the conclusion you would rather have me not issue them unless to Volunteer Officers, I therefore informed Col. W. that those on hand were not fit for issue therefore could not fill his Requisition at present.

The papers for that property for Fort Myers only arrived here on last Wednesday I found all correct signed & returned the Receipts. Same day turned over to the Dr. Ins Dept for Fort Myers with the necessary papers to Col. F. J. Pettaw & Major M. Kinstry, there has been another Independent Mt'd. Co. raised since you left Mr. Capt. O. Hart his Co. together with Carter's is yet to be supplied I have 45 Rifles now on hand fit for issue. Some Cos of the Regt. that I thought were completed in arms have since drawn some 6 or 8 each, not as yet necessitated to use Muskets in lieu of Rifles.

All our hands seem to be getting along well and handsomely
Russ is apparently improving in health, Zeane keeps still
going along, Wallace is making the window sash, Frank is very
Satisfactory. Mr Grant is rapidly improving all are kept going
No idle time. All the weeds in front and close to the fence all around
are cut down, all the Bumpkin & Melon vines Corn &c I have removed
and put Sweet potatoe vines in their place they are coming up
handsomely, as soon as the windows are completed the completion of
the Magazine will go on.

Lieut Lee is A. A. a det. Genl & Mastering Officer, which
enables Maj. Sage to be at home freely. I hope this will find you
in the social happiness which you have so long craved and in the
enjoyment of good health as me and my family are, is the blessing
which I wish you and your dear family

With much respect
I am Sir

Your obt Servt
John Ferguson

Lieut C. O. Howard
Ord. Corps
Lee ds
Maine

John Ferguson
Aug. 30 1853