

Leeds Maine

September 5th 1857.To
The Rev. S. H. Gayles
Sir

I am a stranger to you, but take the liberty to write you in order to make inquiries concerning my half-brother R. H. Gilman. He does not desire neither do any of his friends ask for his return to Andover. He is a good & pious boy & if I understand him rightly stood fair in point of class work.

We cannot imagine for what reason you speak in such a manner of his progress in study. "General Disposition". It grieves us & his parents to receive such a flattering epistle concerning him. He is my youngest brother & has been always, a good boy & well disposed towards his instructors. Now that he can unite with us in love to the American Union & to do his will it is exceedingly strange that he should have fallen into disrepute with his teacher, who is also a brother in Christ. He has tried to tell us every instance in which he can remember any dereliction with reference to duty. You will surely

simply a dismissal from the Academy
on account of bad conduct. It is
general in relation to the m. m. d.
through which an entire change is required
we would look for some specifics &
don't think a boy who loves his God,
who at your very institution met with
a change of heart, can be deserving of the
cold dismissal you have given him.
If you would like to answer me
I shall within a few weeks be at West
Point N. Y. However if you would direct
him the matter be forwarded to me

Very Respectfully
Yours &c
W. Howard
141st Avenue
U. S. Army

Recd Mr. Howard
Sept. - 1857

Keallanell Sept. 11. 1857

Dear Mother

If you remain next week - I
 before I must forego the "trip" & take
 Ella up to see you & Lizzie before you
 go away - I want to see Lizzie so much
 myself too! If Aunt gets home tomorrow
 or Sunday - I could go to Martha the
 following day & get up to Leeds towards
 Evening - If you are not there I don't
 want to go now - No matter if Lizzie
 is "getting ready" Ella won't hinder her.

Uncle Esign will now receive "Association
 Company" & that will relieve mother - who
 must have a ship for Ella when she comes -
 because she is "opine" to go - but still
 wants to dreadfully - If you must go
 away before Thursday - send me word
 if you possibly can -

I went with Uncle Esign to Augusta
 this morning and we left Aunt Martha
 very much improved -

Pray God that she may so continue -

Your Brother

R. W. Land

P.S. We had a good, good, good Prayer
meeting, Wednesday night -

If Aunt Ellen should not come till the
first of the week - my leaving must
be put off, of course, and you have
time to inform me of your
whereabouts -

West Point
Sept 22nd / 57

Dear Mother,

I have
but a minute before
recitation. We arrived
in safety. Got a good
girl in Brooklyn, there.
Sarah. Fizzie & Children
are well. would send
Love of Mine.

We left our trunk box
either at Suds or Auburn.
Ask Billie to inquire -

Will write as soon as
possible all particulars

Yours very affectionately
Geo.

West Point
Sept 15 - 1867

Dear Mother

I am

just a minute before
the morning
in Sept. - Got a good
deal in the morning. The
morn. Sept. 15. Sept. 15. Sept. 15.
am well. am well.

am well.

The Sept. 15. Sept. 15. Sept. 15.
am well. am well. am well.

am well. am well. am well.

am well. am well. am well.
am well. am well. am well.
am well. am well. am well.

Received
Sept. 22nd 57

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R. I saw Sam Hicks at
Leviston & he seemed much
disappointed that you did
not stop or dine with him -
I saw no others of my
friends.

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Hallam's Sept. 22. 1857

Dear Mother & Sister

I write now because
I was afraid that you would forget
to drop me a line this week telling
me of your arrival at West Point.
I won't write you for much but
I do feel anxious for just a few
words. Speak particularly about "Fry."
He seemed so different from "Uncles"
Fry that I shall feel anxious till
I hear.

We had a pleasant ride to Bath
Friday & I came up to Sunday attending
my meetings Sunday as usual and
am now in my old school duties.

I saw Nellie at Auburn & Charles
at Brunswick. Have had a letter
from Mr. Taylor of the same purport
as yours. I have sent it to Nellie
via Charles.

I went up to see Aunt Martha

yesterday afternoon - found her much
as you described at Leeds.

She has a room by herself & a
person who seems to be a faithful
attendant. Much Ensign was down
to see her Saturday.

Ellen was delighted with her
visit to Leeds & I think we both
shall feel better satisfied now that
she has seen my home & family.

She found Mr. Eversing, another young
friend of hers who is "seeking" & she
feels sanguine that she will be enabled
to point her to the Lamb of God who
taketh away the sin of the world.

The little girls have the whooping
cough badly - but all the rest of
our friends here are well.

Miss Ellen got home the same day
I came to Leeds.

Kiss the dear babies for me
& always remember me in your
prayers

Your affectionate Brother

John Cunniff

Keallanell Sept. 24. 1857

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Dear Aunt

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Don't be frightened at my writing so often but Ella sent me the enclosed Ref for Guy & I wanted him to have it right away as I have considerable confidence in "Mamma's" remedies. Ella send a great deal of love to you & Lizzie & the children.

I have not heard from Aunt Martha since I wrote.

Our prayer meeting last evening was deeply interesting. My soul is burdened for this Church & this people among whom, in the Providence of God I have been cast.

I shall go home about the 1st of Oct. & stay till I go to Bangor. I have written to Jonathan Adams who is down there to secure me a room in the Linn. Building.

I have to furnish my own room. Saw & carry up my wood.

I hope I may be able to keep warm by that process during Dec. & Jan. -

I hope there is no trouble about the irregular manner in which you

have changed from Tarape to West Point

A whole bushel of love to Lizzie
Tell her this gives me unspeakable
satisfaction "Everything is Providential"
We are in the hands of a merciful
Father & "He doeth all things well"

I can't bear not to see Guy
for so long very well -

You mustn't be jealous - for he
won't be long a long while -

The "Infant Prose" was just suited
to Ella & I thought Lizzie might feel
the same. Looking as she is the same
Kingdom with the same Childlike
Spirit & subject to the same tempta-
tions -

You did not like the name "Israel"
but I think you will recognize the
nature & spirit of that individual -
as Mr. Sherwood depicts him -

Yours aff. Bro.

Rowland

B. L. C. L.
Sept. 25/57

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Waterwich Arsenal, W.S.
Sept. 25th 1857

Dear Howard;

Your kind little note came to hand day before yesterday evening. I am much obliged to you for writing. I had heard a day or two before that you were at the Point, but I did not know Mrs. Howard had yet gone there. I sent your ⁵ boxes yesterday by the H. & R. Road; should have preferred sending them by water but did not know when I could find another vessel at Troy which would stop at West Point, and thinking probable you needed them I sent them as per enclosed Bill of Lading. I had all the larger boxes hooped, as they are usually roughly handled on the Rail-Roads.

How do you like West Point as a station? I heard from your Brother a short time ago, and was much gratified to hear that he has determined to fit himself for the ministry instead of for the Law. Not that I love Law less, but that I love the ministry more. Allow me to congratulate you upon the birth of your little daughter, though it is rather late, still it is the first opportunity I have had for doing so. The loss of Mrs. Waite must go quite hard with you all, she was such a kind friend and devoted Mother, a severe affliction; but we must hope for the best, a joyful reunion, beyond the grave, where friends will never be separated more. Death ought not to be regarded with gloom, but as simply a necessary step to be taken on the road to eternity. It should

not be regarded as the end of life, but merely as one of the events (a very important one too true) of life which itself never ends. What do you wish done with your carriage? Shall I send it to you, by the first vessel which sails for the Point? I have found no opportunity of selling it. Mrs. Lee, and the Waterblitters generally send their love to you & yours. May Heaven grant you that blessing which you bestow upon others.

Believe me ever
Yours affectionate friend
West Point Charles Lee
N. York

H. Carter

Lieut. C. Howard,
West Point.

By Enlist Carter

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Bradford, Sept. 29, 1857.

Lieut. C. Howard,

Dear Sir:—

Having been formerly
with a brief but very pleas-
ant acquaintance with
you some years ago, I take
the liberty of introducing
to you my son, Eugene Carter,
the bearer of this note, and
now one of the West Point
"Plebes." Any kindness you
may be able to render
him, especially by an
occasional good word
of advice or encouragement,
will be gratefully received
and remembered.

You will remember

me as the editor of the
Portland Advertiser at
the time of your man-
riage in Portland - in
remembrance of which sent
the card which you politely
sent me on the occasion,
is now before me.

I know, dear Sir, the
value of good examples,
precepts and specifications
at West Point. You may
be true, from this note,
that in my short ac-
quaintance with you, I
received an impression as
to your character which
makes me desire that
my son should profit
by your example - and
if, at the same time,

you can,
consistently with the position
which you now occupy,
~~you~~ give him the
benefit of an occasional
precept, you will
very much oblige,
Yours, very truly,
H. Carter.

13 1/2

I shall be very happy indeed to see you
on a similar occasion in Gardiner in
a few days afterwards - I will send your
cards - & at the same time Clapson does
- My respects to Mrs H - à la vôtre place -
Truly Yrs.

J. A. Gilman

2nd Sept 1887

Fort Adams R.I.

September 29th 1887

My dear A. C.

"It was in the month of October

"Of my most immemorial year

"It was down by the dark tower of Auburn

"In the ghost-haunted woodland of Weir"

In other words - I - am - going - to - get - married -

The event will transpire on or about the 26th of next month
as nearly as by the formulae of matrimonial astronomy
it can be calculated when I shall come into the field of
view and take my place in the social system somewhat
like Saturn with his rings - or like Mars and the Moon -

It is highly desirable that you be present at the
initiation of a Brother Benedict - Of course I do not
care anything about it - but the fair lady herself has
singularly enough written me to know where you
were and why you could not stand by to receive
in your arms the bride or the groom whoever should
faint first -

Your first question naturally is 'Who is she?'
Come, my dear fellow and see, - from my associations
this summer it might be inferred that some match-
making mother had at last trapped a luckless
Lieutenant and paired him off with one of these
perpetual belles of the back room whose painted breasts

have been the foci of hundreds of eyes night-after night
through season after season - Newport truly was
thronged with very many specimens of vivified ~~mummies~~
- mummies from Cupid's museum this summer - during
the winter season they will hibernate in the parlors
of the Fifth Avenue and wait for the warmth and
fragrance of June to galvanize them into anima-
- tion - As for myself I have made no invest-
- ments in that kind of stock - I had rather
buy the Harlem railroad or the paper of the Ohio Life
& Trust Company - In my surfaked state relative
to woman-kind of this sort - drinking Champagne at
the Tea house with Miss Smith or pouring nonsense
by moonlight in the ear of Miss Jones - I did not
suck to the other extreme and seek an alliance
with the first-blooming fresh milk-maid I saw -
with the good sense I usually show I sought to
combine what there was of good in both antipodes
and then marry that - Of my success I leave
you to judge - suffice it to say that the worst
possible enemy of the future Mrs. Clonagan could only
say that we married each other because we had
been mutually known long & well -

What her reasons for marrying me
are I do not know - they are at least satisfactory
to herself - mine are as numerous as babies
in poor families and strong as the most
favorite "saw Krant" of Dutch land - If

the popular doctrine of New England is true as I am
inclined to believe that in the hereafter that could
mistily to view down thro' a long vista of tombs and
marble slabs and Cypresses not only can be seen
the glitta of golden harps in angel hands but also
curious gleams from that huge Incubator where
the Devil sauges the sinners of earth like eggs in
sows and piles the flaming brimstone underneath until
he hatches them out into horned and hooped images
of his hideous self - If this is so it is high time
I had laid an anchor to windward - high time
I was forging the links of that chain by which I
can hold on fast to Heaven - I know of no better
blacksmith for this species of ironmonger than
a wife - a droll mixture this - but it is
a droll step I am soon to take - By the way
I had almost forgotten to disclaim one object of
my writing - Would you not be pleased to
be present at my wedding with Mrs. H. They are very
anxious at home to see you there - William
will be married at the same time and St. Edwy
of this company will attend me - After my marriage
I proceed to Gardiner Maine where William
works his individuality - also and then we
return to Fort Adams - I will send you cards
soon - I congratulate you too on the recent change
in your station - How does it please you -

My love to Mrs. Howard -
Yrs. Clonagan

Wasson's new wing - 11
Fort Brooke Sep. 30. 1857

Dr Lieut.

I think I am beginning to grow
tired because I do not hear from you
What has become of you? I know you had a wife
& dear children & friends, but I did not
prepare to have you forget us in Ft B
& Tampa - but not yet in one time - so we
no hear from you - Nobody has yet appeared
to take your place as ord. off. & you know
the 4 arty are ordered out & are gone so I
have not an available officer to supply
your place - I shall have to tell your
chief so.

I am about to leave for Fort Myers &
Dallas perhaps - I need footmen to go into
the wigwags - but have none save the 1st
arty. No regular troops at this Post or Myers
or Meade or Kipmum or Fort Delaney or any
where save Capron. Fort Dallas & Key West -
The yellow fever has driven Col. Winsen & his
men to Indian Key - I have ordered 1 Off & 30 men
to Fort Myers by the Schooner Washington - I must
see to all this - I send you -

Paidore harte's defects for blame not
time to read these ones -

I was at the prayer meeting last evening - not a full attendance - I trust a true spirit of prayer pervaded the hearts of many - Mr. Linn desired to be remembered to you & to hear from you - Do not forget us in your prayers if you do to write to us.

The last time I was at my mother's house, she was mourning the loss of her father - she was full of joy & rejoicing - said he "did a most faithful night" - Pray for us all - Pray for yourself - I do not expect you have escaped the temptations that the faithful follower of Christ may always expect to meet - I know that Jesus is mighty to save - able to save to the uttermost all who come to him - Take all your difficulties, of whatever kind, to Him & tell him here are all these troubles & perplexities I am encouraged to cast them all upon The Merciful God - Do so you will find a blessing - Beware of prosperity too - The Robber spawls a man leaving the bank with his pocket filled with money - The Devil does not like to see Christians happy & rejoicing -

Please present me kindly & with respect to your dear companions & to all who love our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ to

L. O. Howard
all.

Yours truly
G. L. Linn
Oct. 5, 1847