West Point July 1st 1858

Dear Cousin Otis

We arrived here safe on Monday eve and found every thing as comfortable as we could wish. Ellen was at her sisters on the Point and came right to the house so we had no trouble at all. Mother finds it very pleasant. She enjoys it much. The Miss Barards are very kind and call to see mother often. Miss Demot called a day or two ago. I think we could not be pleasanter situated anywhere. I meet Mr Roberts most every day. There is few of the officers here that I met before.

I enclose 2 letters that I found on our arrival here.

Mother’s health remains about the same as when you saw her. If any thing she is not quite so strong. I have decided to remain on shore untill her health improves which I fear will never be. I think that she will never recover. I am more convinced than when you saw her in New York.

About business arrangements. I think it quite possible that I may visit Maine sometime this month to see if I can raise one or two thousand dollars to put into a ship. Write me what you think. Do you think any of my friends have got the money to lend me at 7 percent or to invest another on account and if they would do it. About vessels there is a plenty of them for sale in New York cheap.

Give my love to your mother Col Gilmore to Lizzie Roland and all our friends at Leeds. Tell John Harrison that he owes me a letter. When he pays up I will write him again. Kiss the children for me & believe me your affectionate Cousin

S Perry Lee
Brunswick July 6, 1858

My dear brother Otis

I mentioned in mother’s letter that I was desirous you should come down & see me. Now I will repeat the same to you. Ella wants you to come & see her very much - wants you to stay two or three days. We would be glad to have you this week or as soon as you can come but want you to make calculations to stay several days for I want you to spend one night if you cant any more with me and she says you must be at Bath so as to attend the morning meeting. Ella would be delighted to have Lizzie come & bring both children. Says Lizzie & Anna Hattie, her sisters, would be so happy to take care of the little ones. I want to see Lizzie very much & the children. Do come either alone or with Lizzie or the whole family.

Nettie went to Bath with me & we had a very pleasant day, but I cannot write more because I want this to go out in todays mail.

If you come this week we shall be ready for you if not hope to have a letter before long.

My love to Father & Mother.

Your Affec. brother
C.H. Howard

P.S. Rowland is well & happy.
Leeds July 18, 1858 [entire letter very faint]

Dear Cousin Otis

Since you have been in Maine I have not had an opportunity to see you last Thursday but thinking that you might have some spare funds for which you would like to be receiving interest and I being in debt some $500, which is now due and having no possibility which I can <[many lines too faint]>

when I was disappointed. If you can accommodate me it would be a great favor.

Please write me soon if it is possible for you to help me.

We are all well as usual <> has been unwell but is now better. Mother remains much the same <>.

Hoping to see you here soon to make us a visit and <hoping> you and your family are <enjoying> health and doing good in your <>.

I remain your Aff cousin
J.H. Otis
Augusta Maine
July 19th 1858

My dear Mother

We came here last Tuesday night, visited Hallowell on Saturday and saw all our friends there, but our visit was marred by Guy becoming quite ill. We came back before it was late Saturday evening, and put Guy to bed and sent for Dr Briggs. Saturday night Guy had a burning fever all night, and all day yesterday the fever continued & last night sometimes it subsides & then comes on again. He is patient and good as he can be. We have every attention, convenience, kindness & medical attendance.

Chas. Mulliken gives every evidence I could ask of “a new heart” - he has his family prayer with his wife & children twice a day, & asks a blessing at the table, and as far as I can see is acting as near as he can by God’s help, as his obedient child.

Lizzie continues well. Mrs Mulliken & the old lady wished you had come down to the Association. We were going to Bath this morning at nine o’clock, but Guy’s sickness has prevented. Aunt Ellen & Laura Ann inquired for you. They were quite well. Remember us in your prayers. Our plans will be governed by the sickness of Guy. He could not now be moved with safety. On any change for the better or worse I will write you.

My love to Father. Tell Cynthia when you see her I hope she remembers her promise to me - I have not forgotten it.

I have heard from Rowland twice since I have been here. The first time he said he had not been very well but the second letter don’t say but that he is well. His “part” was about done.

We are watching for favorable symptoms in Guy’s case. I am down street, otherwise Lizzie would send love. Grace is well & I hope Lizzie will continue so. She slept well last night, when she did sleep. Guy wants her to take him up occasionally, & then he says “put me down, mamma.” He only remains up a half minute.

Good bye for the present.

Emma Turner has had an attack of bleeding at the lungs, Thursday I believe of last week. She was able to be up yesterday. All the rest of Joshua’s family are quite well. He is much engaged in religion.

Affectionately yr Son
O.O. Howard
West Point July 22nd 1858

My dear Otis & Lizzie,

I have but little strength to write so you will excuse my addressing you together. We are enjoying your Cottage exceedingly the sweet sounds of music from the birds scarcely cease. Still I never enjoyed the pure air of the country as I have & my health seems to improve so much that was it not for this local difficulty I should think myself almost well. I get tired easy. I went to New York & Brooklyn last Monday and returned the same evening and felt quite well the next day. I feel quite free from care. Ellen does every thing so nicely. We have had three bowls of current jelly made. Ellen making all the currents up. The children came in from professor Wears yard and robed the bushes a good deal so we only had nine quarts. We have had so many raspberries we have not used many currents except to mix with raspberries. I want to make some raspberry jam for you but fear I shall miss of it as we have had a heavy shower during the past night.

Michal seems to take good care of every thing. The second week after we came up he picked string beans one day and green peas the next but the bush beans are too large and the others were not large enough and the green peas lasted but a week they were delicious. So have nothing now from the garden but raspberries. Perry has enjoyed picking them very much. All your friends have been very kind and attentive and enquires very affectionately after all of you Mr <Falk's> mother was here when I came. She heard I was here and came with her son to see me. She said she regretted very much she could not see you as her son had written to her so much about Lieutenant Howard and he said he could never express the gratitude he felt to him and said all the sections felt the same and intended to present a sword in token of their affection, but Col Flanders told them they could not make presents. Mr Foster called and I was out. He is in Maine. Mr Carter has called too. His father has been here and wanted to see Lieut Howard. Mr Wright comes to see us often. Mr Roberts & the Barards are exceedingly attentive and kind. Miss Drummit, Mrs Wear, Mrs Church, Mrs French & daughter, Mrs Delffield & daughter, the Miss Thomsons professor French Mr O Marr and his daughter & Miss Clark have called also Miss Caswel. They all enquire so very kindly all about you and speak so affectionately about the Dear children. Mrs Wear spoke Dear Grace’s danger at the time she had the marble in her throat. She spoke of her as that dear lamb and that angelick child. I was quite in love with Mrs Wear. I have seen her two or three times and have seen her babies, and Mrs Gilmore has fine babies too. Mrs Gilmore said she was prevented from calling on Mrs Howard before going to Brooklyn and since her return Mrs Howard had not called on her. She is a very pleasant Lady. I have not been to the Sunday school. The weather is so hot that Perry will not want for me to go out at that hour as the hill would be steep for me to return.

We hear from Frank and Sarah often. They are quite well. Perry has had some offers for business but he does not think I better write any thing about business as I am not able to attend to any thing myself and I try not to distress myself about those things I cannot control. I hear from Silas often and also Martha Jane and all friends. I do wish your Mother would write to me. Give a great deal of love to her & Col Gilmore also to Roland Charles & Rodelphus and kiss the dear children for me. Why don’t Ensign write to me? Do I owe him a letter. You must tell all my friends I have so many letters to write to my children that I was apt to put off writing to other relatives but I would love to write. Do remember me affectionately all of my relatives and all enquiring friends Ensign and John Harrison, Hellen & their dear children & Laura & Ellen & family.

Good by in haste your affectionate
Aunt Ann Otis Lee
Fort Kearney N.T.
July 28, 1858

Dear Otis

In looking over my old letters the other day, I found in one of them that I was indebted to you $6.75 for ammunition got while in Florida. I recollect of writing to Mother to pay the bill, while you were on furlough, in Maine & I am ashamed that it has not been paid before. I enclose herewith a check for the amount. Since I left you in Florida I am happy to say that I have got along very pleasurably indeed. When I came to this post I was made A.A. of M. A.A.C.S & Post Adjt all of which duties I have just been relieved from, after performing them thus far to the satisfaction of my Commanding Officer, Capt L.P. McCown. Capt McCown left here yesterday & I am in command of the company.

Since I came to this post, I have had fine sport, hunting Buffalo & other wild game - never enjoyed such hunting before.

Col May recently took command of the post, & three companies come here with him so there will be 4 companies here during the coming winter.

Nothing of particular importance has recently been heard from the army in Utah.

Please write to me on the receipt of this & believe me to be

Truly yours
W. L. Lothrop

To: 1st Lieut OO Howard
West Point
N.Y.