
954 10/3/1858 *From:* R.H. Gilmore

To: My Dear Brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-0893

Auburn

Source: Bowdoin

Auburn Oct 3d 1858

My Dear Brother

I had a letter from you about one year ago and have concluded to write you this hoping to get an answer which I did not get when I wrote you last. I am attending school here this term & am doing nicely. I am reading Cicero for Latin & Xenophons Anabase's for Greek. I have already read Three Orations in Cicero & expect to read at least four more this term.

Some how I do not seem to progress very fast in my Greek but I find that I am gaining now every day. I like it much better than I did last term however. I think Cicero is the best Latin I ever had anything to do with. It is very beautiful & studying it is nothing more than a recreation. I can read a page without looking out more than a half dozen words, very frequently.

I have been thinking about going down to Brunswick & Harpswell next week I hardly yet know whether it is best to go. I think I should be the gainer by it. I think that all the school I should loose would be compensated by the renewed strength that I should gain. I know that when I have been away from my books for a few days that when I get back I can study much harder so that in a few days it is all made up.

I was at Leeds last Sabbath. Mother was well and all the family as far as I could see. I did not stay long. I read a letter from you while there & also one from Rowland. We get very cheering news from him, in respect to his labors there. I hope that many souls will be converted there.

Our morning prayer meetings have been discontinued. They were stoped while I was at home in vacation. Had I been here I should have done all I could to have had them go on but now they are stoped all but the one sabbath morning. This morning I went down to the church & found only two men, but we had a prayer-meeting. Others who heard how it was this morning said they would go next Sabbath so that our having such a small number this morning may induce many to go in order that we may keep up a meeting of a respectable character. The meeting this morning was a very good one & we felt that we did not in the least go there to be heard of men but there we were before God & we offered up our petitions to Him alone. I succeeded in getting a prayer meeting started in the Academy for both young ladies & gentlemen. It was supposed that we should be able to get together, about eight or ten but we were joyfully disappointed when we saw about 25 come in the first evening. We thought that we would rather by a great deal have a large number as we should have the power of doing good in a larger circle.

I feel the presence of God this term more than I ever did before. I feel like saying for him more than ever. The Saviour's cause is much nearer to me, yet I find that I am doing but little for him. I think I should exert my whole energies in his cause. Pray for me in your closet that I may always do my duty to my God regardless of the opinion of the world.

I likw the school this term much better than I ever have before. Mr Carlton seems to desire that I should know something and labors hard for me. He is a good man and a whole souled Christian. Mr Pulsifer, a graduate of Bowd at the last Commencement is his assistant. I do not recite to him in any of my lessons as Mr Carlton hears all the Classical department. Mr Pulsifer teaches Mathematics & Modern Languages. It is said that he is liked very much better than Mr Carlton, but as a man I think he is far inferior. Mr. P. Is a Universalist and he does not fail to expound his doctrine whenever an opportunity presents itself; but otherwise I like him very much. He boards here with us only across the hall & he & I very frequently get into a religious debate. He commenced to read the Bible the first of this term, how long he will read it I do not know, but he says he will read it through & I hope he will for it cannot fail to do him some good.

I wish you would pray for him. He has the ability to do a great deal of injury or a great deal of good & I hope he will lend his influence in the right way.

Another young man and myself started an elocutionary club in the Academy for the purpose of improving in declaiming. We had about five or six the first time but now we have the whole school. We go in twice each week, have a critic appointed & then declaim all round. I went into the Literary Adelphi for the second time this term last night & found that I was on debate and chairman of a committee to draft a new Constitution & By-Laws. Just the moment they can find me they must have something for me to do. I told you a lot about this society when you was here. I shall have as little to do with it as I can, for just as soon as I do anything they want me to do more, and it takes a great deal of my time which I would like to spend in some other way.

I hope you will write me soon as I am anxious to hear from you, and I would like you to write all about Lizzie & the children. Give my love to them and remember me as your affectionate brother.

R.H. Gilmore

955 10/4/1858 *From:* L. H. Devore

To: Lieut. [OO] Howard

OOH-0894

Cherokee Baptist
College,
Cassville, Ga.

Source: Bowdoin

Cherokee Baptist College,
Cassville, Ga.
Oct 4th 1858

Lieut. Howard,

Dear Sir,

Please pardon me for the liberty I take in asking a favor of you. I have lately been troubled with a Problem in Davies' Legendre - the 15th Prob. In Application of Algebra to Geometry. Will you be so kind as to work it out and send me the formula? I have allowed a class to omit it with the promise to explain it to them in review.

Very Respectfully Yours
S. H. Devore

956 10/5/1858 *From:* E. Waite

To: Lieut O.O Howard

OOH-0895

Portland

Source: Bowdoin

Portland Octr 5th 1858

Lieut O.O Howard

Dear Sir

Your favor of 2d inst was recvd last evening - we were pleased to hear from you and to learn that yourself & dear Wife & Children were all well & that you recvd the Certificate of R.R. Stock all safe.

In answer to your enquiry as to the best way to invest a thousand dollars in Portland at present I can only say that if I were a going to invest a \$1000 for myself, at present it would be in Bank Stock, where it could always be made available when wanted. The Banks here have just declared their dividends - of 4 per ct for last Six Mos.

Do you wish me to collect the dividend on Lizzies Stock and forward it.

With much Love,
Your Affectionate Uncle
E. Waite

957 10/6/1858 *From:* S. P. Lee

To: Dear Otis [OO Howard]

OOH-0896

New York

Source: Bowdoin

New York Oct 6th /58

Dear Otis

I telegraphed to you last night to come down to day with Kingsley to close about the vessel as there is several persons trying to get her and I have got the refusal of her untill tomorrow noon. She is what I represented her to you, a good and cheep vessel. Mr Bacon stands my security for a quarter and Mr Hall takes the other quarter so that if you will come down I can close the bargain at once and get business for her. If you did not get my telegraph and have not left please come down as quick as you can, say as early tomorrow as you can.

Mother is comfortable and I think improving in health.

Mr Robert leaves tomorrow in the St Louis. The Moses Taylor broke down yesterday before she left the Dock.

With love to the Children & Lizzie, I remain your

Affectionate Cousin
S. P. Lee

958 10/15/1858 *From:* E. Waite

To: Lieut. O.O. Howard

OOH-0897

Portland

Source: Bowdoin

Portland Oct 15th/58

Lieut. O.O. Howard

Dear Sir

I recvd your letter of 12th by due course of mail.

Agreeable to your request I have collected the dividend on Lizzie's Bank Stock \$72 - and herewith enclose the same to you which I hope will arrive safe.

With much love to yourself and Dear Wife & Children,

I remain

Your Affectionate

Uncle

E. Waite

P.S.

I hope that your new investment will turn out to be a good and profitable concern.

E.W.

959 10/16/1858 *From:* John R. Bacon

To: Mr [OO] Howard

OOH-0898

New York

Source: Bowdoin

New York

Oct 16/58

My dear Mr Howard

I don't know if Perry has written you and he is not in to ask. So, I write to apprise you that the good Bark D.S. Goodell is now loading under charter to St Iago Cuba, & back, with privilege of Gibara, for \$2600 and port charges paid, and 48 lay days at all ports. This is a very good charter and ought to pay \$800 to \$1000 clear, and completed in 90 days. I hope there will be passage money sufficient to pay her victualling bill. I have insured Mr Halls quarter at 12¢, and shall get the other three quarters done next week, probably in the city.

Pray say to Mr Kinsley as much of this as may interest him, and with kind regards to Mrs Howard

believe me

Truly yours

John R. Bacon

960 10/16/1858 *From:* Chas. H. Howard

To: My dear Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

OOH-0899

Bowd. Coll.

Source: Bowdoin

Bowd. Coll. Oct. 16. 1858

My dear Mother

I believe I have not had the pleasure of a letter from you this term but still have no thoughts of waiting. I was at Harpswell Sunday with Ella. Rowland said he had had a letter and that you was unwell. I was very sorry to have this news from you. I hope you are well before this time.

You will have seen by the papers before this reaches you that Prof Cleaveland is dead. It was a very unexpected event though he had been unwell for a week or two. He heard us recite two mornings before and was intending to meet us that morning at 9 o'clock. He had been obliged to ride over for some time past, ever since an ill turn he had since which he has heard us at 9 instead of 6 as was his custom before. The Physician, Dr Lincoln, has said for some time however that the old man was liable to go at any minute.

It was a great blow to the College. He was the best teacher I ever had as I think I wrote to you before. We never came out of the recitation without knowing more than when we went in. He stated to us that this was the principle he acted upon. He seemed to be the "main stay" of the College - made out all the term bills - not a cent of money was paid out of the Treasury without his approval. He had the best discipline in his classes of any of the instructors. If any one was absent he was obliged to go over to his house & be examined on the whole lesson. He never allowed the word "unprepared" to be used in the recitation room. No one ever thought of going in without a knowledge of his lesson. Still he was very kind & accommodating, & never severe in questioning. If he found that one of us could not answer his question he would ask it in different ways so that we could hardly help knowing.

The faculty seem to lament the loss more than you would think. When his death was announced to Prof Packard he dropped his hat which he held in his hand & the tears ran down his cheeks. He immediately remarked - "Prof Cleaveland is connected my earliest remembrance of College." You know Prof P. is quite an old man. The President felt his loss more deeply than any of the rest. They were always particular friends. In his prayer last night he alluded to him as "the pillar of strength". Dr. Packard's prayer this morning was wholly made up of allusions to the <sorry> event. One of my class came in a <little> after eight o'clock & said Prof C was dying. I was expecting to meet him <for> recitation at 9. I was hearing my <boy> recite. He comes from 8 to 9. The bell immediately began to toll both at the chapel & at the Church. They tolled away <> & solemnly for an hour. Then the students met in the Chapel & decided to drape the Chapel & other College buildings & to wear crape & the Senior Class chose a Committee to make arrangements about attending the funeral. This will take place next Tuesday. We shall have no recitations till then. We had none yesterday. Nothing was said about it but by universal consent all books were laid aside & studies.

It is as though the head of the family were taken away for he was a father to the College.

He leaves a very helpless family - a son, non compos, & two daughters who have depended upon him wholly & will be almost entirely incapable of taking care of themselves, another son almost equally dependant who lives nearby his fathers house & always asked his advice in all matters.

I know not yet what course will be taken to fill his place in the Professorship. My class will be a great loser.

I called on Lucy Ann Crows last night. She seems as well as usual. I did not see the old lady who was at her son Joseph's.

I spent most of the evening with Nettie. She inquired if I had not yet heard from you. Fears I will not want her to write again if it is her letter that make you wait so long. I had a letter from Otis not long ago in answer to one I wrote to him. He continues it seems his Wed. Night lectures.

Dellie seemed to have a real good time down here & I was very glad he came. He came down in the Stage

Coach & it only cost him 2.25 to come down & go back. So you see he did not lose anything by coming down as he saved a week's board amounting I suppose to \$2.50.

I have pretty much determined to live at home this winter & if I do Dellie will stay at home too & recite to me. In this way he will save 50 dollars & I shall feel better satisfied to have saved that am't for him even though I earn nothing myself. "No great loss without some small gain." I should have earned \$50 in two months, teaching but if I have good lot of time to study & read & write this winter & more than all this - get very well & strong - get perfect health as I hope to, I shall be glad I did not teach. I hope to hear from you very soon. Give my love to all the family to Cynthia & Roland. How does Cynthia enjoy her <>. Have you conversed with her on the subject lately? Have you a teacher engaged for our school yet? Do you see Uncle Ensign ever?

Your affectionate son
Chas. H. Howard

961 10/17/1858 *From:* Lizzie Howard

To: My dearest Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-0900

Watervliet Arsenal
West Troy

Source: Bowdoin

Watervliet Arsenal
West Troy, Oct. 17, 1858.

My dearest Otis

We are all very well but I know you would like to hear from us to relieve you from all anxiety. You left us in the cars - we did not get a seat all to ourselves till we arrived at Poker's. Guy had a sleep in Susan's arms and waked when we arrived there, seemed very well. Grace was just as good as need be and went to sleep soon after that, with me, then I gave her to Susan and she had quite a long nap. They were both just as good as they could be, and asked for nothing they could not have.

When we got to Albany Grace saw so many get out, that she got uneasy and wanted to get out also. I stood by the door with her till we started, then fed her and she was good till we arrived at Troy. I saw Mr Lee standing in the Depot when the Cars stoped and spoke to him from the window. He came in and helped us out very kindly, took us to a carriage and we were soon off for the Arsenal. It was then getting dark some of the stores lighted so I saw little of Troy, but recognized the old Ferry landing. We arrived at Mr Lee's house well, children both happy, and delighted with the dog, rabbit, and baby, they found here ready to bid them welcome.

You really have no idea how pleasant it does seem here. I walked up to our old quarters this afternoon. They looked very pleasant, but it made me feel a little sad as old reminiscences came to mind, associations with the house, the changes, separations, and the happy reunions, all were remembered for the moment, but soon vanished when I thought of God's mercy to us in sparing our lives, and accepting us through Christ his son our saviour. And what are we that He is mindful of us? I believe I grow more and more humbled before Him, and love him better. How little grateful I am for the abundant blessing, I receive every day. I know it and feel it, but He asks nothing in return for His love, but obedience and will we not obey so kind and loving a master? I trust so and pray he will keep me, knowing my inability to keep myself.

I find Mr and Mrs Lee very earnest active Christians. I went to Church with them this morning and heard an excellent extempore discourse addressed to Sabbath school teachers. I like Mr Fairchild very much and was struck with his beauty of language in explaining the scriptures. I hope you will be here next Sunday. I know you would enjoy all the exercises. I want to see you, and if you get lonely and want me to come home before Saturday, you must send for me, or come for me earlier.

The young ladies were in to see me last evening, and Major and Mrs M. this afternoon, she a remarkably pleasant lady and we know him to be as before. I hope you are very well and happy. Write when you get this, and if the money has come you may send me ten dollars, but need not borrow to do so.

I remain your affectionate wife
Lizzie Howard

Excuse misspelt words and bad writing. Both children asleep nearly nine o'clock finish writing.

In haste
Lizzie

962 10/17/1858 *From:* O. O. Woodman

To: Dear Cousin [OO
Howard]

OOH-0901

New Orleans

Source: Bowdoin

New Orleans
Oct 17 1858

Dear Cousin

I am months since I recd your kind letter which I neglected to answer and as it is misplaced I cannot answer it in detail. My neglect is only the natural consequence of that state of almost indifference which one will sometimes acquire from the force of circumstances & the climate here in the summer has a remarkable effect particularly in the midst of an epidemic which has traversed our city with unusual violence. It can truly be said this summer "in the midst of life we are surrounded with death". Out of a population of perhaps one hundred & fifty residents not more than 25000 are unacclimated from this number as 5000 have passed into eternity during the last two months. Though I had the Yellow Fever in 1841 at Vicksburg I have not felt myself perfectly secure, this being the first summer I have ever remained here in New Orleans. The fever this year has been unusually fatal. About 1/4 of all who are attacked die. It is equivalent to an army of twenty thousan going into battle & 1/4 left on the field dead. What a sencatin that would produce yet we take but little notice of sure and quiet way which these epidemics carry off its <>. It is seldom a subject of conversation every day we hear of some friend or perhaps someone in our own house having died before we knew he was sick. The different caretaker society have regular community nurses and physicians who go from house to house among those who are liable to the disease & take charge of the sick. Some tiny whole family are swept away in a few days or perhaps only leaves one or two orphan children who are taken charge of by strangers.

I never enjoyed such perfect health as during this summer. Have actually gained twelve in weight since last winter. But it is sad when I allow myself to think of the distress and death by which I am surrounded. All who are acclimated give their money freely & plenty of good nurses can be had for good pay. They perform their duties mechanically without any apparent thought beyond such is life. But what is death? I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you next summer.

<Truly>
O. O. Woodman

963 10/18/1858 *From:* O.O. Howard

To: My dearest Wife [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-0902

West Point N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

West Point N.Y. Oct 18th 1858

My dearest Wife,

How are you all. I want to hear how Guy stood the journey.

Perry's Charter is for 90 days at \$2600. Mr Bacon writes that the vessel will be likely to clear from \$800 to \$1000 this trip.

I was invited to tea at Mrs Child, the night you left. Ed Clark spent the evening with me. Breakfasted at home Sunday morning, dined at Mr Bratts, accepted the Falls invitation and delivered a lecture there in the evening. Went to see Mr Kingsley this morning - did not find him at home. He overtook me returning - came here & took dinner with me.

You see I have been busy & have not had time to be lonely. We have'nt yet put down any carpets. The money has not yet come.

Give my love to Mr & Mrs Lee & baby. Kiss Guy & Grace for papa.

Affectionately, your husband
O.O. Howard

P.S. I remember you & you must me in Prayer

965 10/19/1858 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dearest Wife [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-0903

West Point N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

West Point N.Y.
Oct 19th 1858

My dearest Wife

I got your letter this evening. I was very glad to hear from you, though I interpreted silence as good news. I am happy that you are having a pleasant visit. Alexander took tea with me last night, & tonight I went to Professor Church's to tea & have spent a very pleasant evening with them. Tell Lee that Mr Church has an offer of a professorship or a principal-ship in an institution in Tennessee for some officer, giving 1200 dollars a year & a house. He offered it to me & asked if Mr Lee would'nt prefer it to his present offer in N. Carolina.

The Kitchen floor is done. I put the carpet down this morning in our sleeping room with Ellens help. She washed the spots, but did not succeed so well as with the little piece. I made her try again, but the yellow had faded & would'nt come yellow again. However, the room looks as neat as a pin. The money \$72 came today with a note from Uncle Edward. No news. I would rather you would stay till I come next Saturday if you and the children are well and can agree with Mrs Lee. You know she wouldnt stay down here.

Give much love to all. I miss my little pratters under my feet when I am writing. My kisses are not. But you know one don't appreciate luxuries when his table is loaded with them every day. I spent last evening at Mr Huses'. He wants to sell a good cow, and I have a good mind to buy her, but will wait till I see you & talk it over. On my way home from Mr H's, McCook & I met and I went into his room and we had a long set-down together. He asked me about my Christian experience, and rough as he is was much interested. Said he had thought he would become a Christian if he got married - more than half in earnest. He told me about the dissipation of Chaplain's on the frontier - about one at Fort Leavenworth whom he found mixing liquor for such men as Old Col Bell. He spoke also of the entire distribution of religion in New Mexico, how they gambled on the Sabbath &c. Some very gloomy pictures to one who really believes in the immortality of the Soul.

I should think old associations would crowd upon you at Troy, where we commenced Lifes pilgrimage together in good earnest. Without being aware of it we have both learned many useful lessons since we started there. Experiences have commenced that will never cease their influence.

Kiss Guy. Tell him his rocking horse stands quietly behind me at the side door. I have sawed off a little from the legs of his crib so that he can get out on the floor I think. Ellen keeps everything tidy & nice, and on the whole I have a much better bachelor fare than in Florida. Such will do for a week or so, but I prefer the family, even if I do sleep with my eyes open almost sometimes.

Mrs Church inquires pleasantly from you & other friends. Kelton has prevailed & got the quarters. Greble holds on to Gibbon's old. I had a pleasant visit to old Mr Warner, the grandfather of the "Wide Wide World" Saturday.

Your Loving Husband
Otis.

Kiss Grace. Tell her papa thinks of her bright eyes & plump cheeks.

My Love to Mr & Mrs Lee. He was good to meet you. I enclose ten dollars.

967 10/28/1858 *From:* C.H. Howard

To: My dear Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

OOH-0904

Bowd. College

Source: Bowdoin

Bowd. College
Oct 28, 1858

My dear Mother

I was unexpectedly rejoiced at receiving a letter from you last night. I took it from the office immediately after supper and as usual walked over to Mr Merryman's and sitting down in his sitting-room read the letter. Nettie was there and seemed pleased to hear from you. She is quite hoarse and her throat is soar, but I am in hopes she will soon recover from it.

At 7 o'clock I had to be at the College to attend a Match Debate between the two Societies the Atheneum and Pencinian. Two Seniors & two Juniors were chosen. It fell upon me to open the debate upon the affirmative of the Question - Is the Gov. of England better than that of U.S. I had as you will readily see the hardest side of the question. We had half an hour to speak but I did not say nearly half I had to offer, in that time. It was decided by a Committee on the merits of the arguments, against us by 3 to 1.

We have no morning rec. so I have plenty of leisure now. I have been reading on that Question for about two weeks. I am appointed on another debate to take place in the Athenaeum tomorrow night. On the Question Would the Extinction of the Ottoman Empire be beneficial to Europe?

Rowland came up to Funeral as you supposed he would. He bro't his trunks but after talking with Prof Packard & others here he concluded to return as they assured him that he need have no thought about preaching Sundays as they would see to that. But after he went to Bath & staid till Thursday he learned from Mr McKeen that Mr Storer who has preached some in Portland & whose home is in Scarboro and who is a most excellent man and just such a one as he wanted to come there, that he would come & preach two Sabbaths, & so he came last Friday. I hope to go down next Sunday. If Mr S can be persuaded to come & stay, Rowland will leave for Bangor next week. He intended to visit Leeds with Ella but I doubt if he does so now. The Mond before he came up here there were present at the inquiry meeting 75 though not all seekers after Christ yet. This will give you an idea of the great interest there is down there.

You wrote me considerable news for which I am very grateful. I sent one of those papers containing an account of Prof Cleaveland's death to Uncle Henry Strickland.

Dellie chose of his own accord to come home this winter and recite to me. I shall have to study somewhat to hear him in Greek as he is reading a book of Greek which I never read. I can get it perfect though & hear him recite. My pupil comes daily at 9 o'clock now & stays with me usually an hour. I am greatly rejoiced to hear some effort is being made on the Ridge - for an awakening in Religion. I am happy also that in accordance with all my prayers you are in the enjoyment of your mind. Does Father want the burden of two big boys at home this winter. Perhaps he may think the burden is heavier to have them away from home. It is now almost Prayers. The bell rings.

Your Affectionate Son.
C.H. Howard

P.S. Your former letter was duly received & but for the press of that discussion would have been answered ere now.