
1066 8/6/1859

From: Stephen D. Lee

To: Lieut O.O. Howard

OOH-1004

Fort Randall N.T.

West Point
N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

Fort Randall N.T.
August 6th, 1859

My Dear Howard

Allow me to introduce to your favorable notice 1st Sgt. H. Jackson of the 4th Artillery who is to appear before the Examining Board for promotion to a commission in the Army.

Sgt. Jackson stands high in the Regiment as a soldier & man of intelligence, and so far as is known, his character is unexceptionable. He was highly recommended by the Regimental Board before which he appeared. Any assistance to the Sergeant, in the shape of advice, books, or in any other way that might suggest itself to you will be considered by me in the shape of a personal favor. Please bring him to the favorable notice of the Board if you think proper.

Yours truly
Stephen D. Lee

To
Lieut O.O. Howard
West Point
N.Y.

1067 8/12/1859 *From:* Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: Dear Brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-1005

Mattawamkeag

Source: Bowdoin

Mattawamkeag
Aug 12, 1859

Dear Brother

I write this as much for mothers sake as your own - of course all will read it. I arrived here from Bangor at 7 last evening after the hot & dusty ride of 60 miles. The boats run to a place but two miles below here in the Spring & Fall, when the water is high, & I hope to go back by them. There is no stage to Patten till tomorrow, & then we ride in an open waggon over a rough road 35 miles - 20 of which is an unbroken forest. The Country between here & Bangor is a natural waste, most of the way, very few farms and only one thrifty village (Lincoln) on the route. It is a flat sandy or boggy country with a growth of low firs & spruces, as dismal & uninteresting in the way of scenery as any you have seen. The Penobscott has low banks & looks as if it were made merely for a lumbering stream. From Lincoln to this point (13 miles) things look a little better - there are islands in the river & some respectable looking farm houses. There are a great many mean rum taverns on the route.

This is a very respectable house & in a pretty place, not big enough to be called a village tho. There is a great deal of traid here, but it is of the lowest kind. I never heard so much profanity in so short a time in my life before. I asked two men to have mercy on me yesterday aboard the coach & they kindly stopped.

I left Harpswell Tuesday night. Mr Lands had been to carry some people to the Mansion House & he gave Ella & me a ride up. We staid at Aunt Janes & Weds. forenoon rode down to Pennels Wharf to see a cousin of E's. Mon. night in Harpswell we had a delightful little prayer meeting on Birch Island. Ella Mr & Mrs Beaker Thos & a few others went over. We had it at the house of an old lame gentleman who has not been off the island for many years.

On Tuesday I visited Orrs Island & called on 7 families. I took the cars Weds at 2 ½ P.M. Then Fri took Ella to Bath with the horse. You see that I spent only one night in Bangor. I called on Mrs Stevens & Mrs Shepard & found both families well. Elias Whittier helped me pack my trunks and I was off at 6 the next morn.

There is no fishing here & I have kept pretty quiet today, getting rested for tomorrow & the Sabbath. Pray for me that God will enable me to encounter & overcome the difficulties before me & to advance the cause of our Redeemer.

Love to all the family. Will you not write me soon at Patten.

Your affectionate Brother
Rowland

1068 8/16/1859 *From:* Samuel Hicks

To: O.O Howard

OOH-1007

Lewiston

Source: Bowdoin

Lewiston August 16, 59

Friend Howard

Dear Sir

Yours of the 15th is at hand & I was glad to have a line from you & Lizzie, it being the first that I ever had from you. Novellia is quite sick with the Summer complaint - not so but what she does her work.

I have seen Mr Smith. He will be up with those grave stones Saturday if it does not rain. He will come up with a part of it Friday. Sarah is at the shop yet. She says that she will give you as much for that Slab as Mr Smith will.

We have a Pic Nic here from Winthrop tomorow you - and I had better come down. Novellia & Nora send their love to all. I am in the Shop again. S. will send the Trunk tomorow afternoon.

From your Humble Servant
Sam'l Hicks

Lewiston August 15th 59
Received of O.O. Howard
Thirty five dollars in full up to this date
Sam'l Hicks

1069 8/22/1859 *From:* M. N. Williams

To: Lieut [OO] Howard

OOH-1006

New Burgh

Source: Bowdoin

New Burgh, Aug 22d/59

Lieut Howard,

Dear Sir,

Having seen you, & heard much of you from friends, I take the liberty of intruding upon your time, hoping you will be at the "Point" in Season to speak an encouraging word to a Sergeant of my husband's company (L 4th Artillery) who is to appear before the board of examiners, on the 1st Monday in Sept. We feel very much interested in Sergeant Jackson & wish him success, but his opportunities for acquiring military knowledge have been so limited for several years, he may not be fully prepared. May I ask, then, in the sergeants behalf, that you will befriend him? If you can give him an insight into the subjects upon which he will be examined, it may be the means of promoting his advancement - & you will greatly oblige my husband & myself.

I hope your wife & children are well, & that you have spent a pleasant summer among friends - & feel in health & spirits for the duties of the coming winter. My Cousins (the Misses Phillips) wish to be kindly remembered. We would like much to know if you have returned to the 'Point'.

With cousinly regards to your wife & self. Believe me,

Your sincere friend,
M. N. Williams

Lieut O.O. Howard
West Point
N.Y.

1070 8/22/1859 *From:* M.H. Wright

To: Chauncy Reese

OOH-1008

Huntingdon, Tenn.

Source: Bowdoin

Huntingdon, Tenn. Aug. 22. 1859

Dear Chauncy: [Chauncey B Reese, USMA Class of 1859]

I am exceedingly obliged to you for your kindness, in attending so promptly to the little affair concerning which I wrote, & for the Pay Accts. I trust you have not concluded, that it was rather a bore, to have such a correspondent - always asking little favors &c. Of one thing you may rest assured - & that is you have the most hearty thanks of your unworthy friend, & shall ever have a claim upon his gratitude. I mention the matter to you, not doubting in the least your perfect willingness to do any one such a favor but because I know that there are those, so selfish & unfeeling, & dead to every friendly impulse as to sneer at another for being so obliging as you have been to me. Some such, no doubt, we have all seen. I trust that I may be able, at some time, to repay the favor - though I would never wish you to be placed in a similar "fix".

As yet, I have heard nothing from my box, but hope to learn something of its whereabouts, in a great while. As for the Agent at West Pont &c, it is all clear of them. I took it myself to New York; & there I got another recpt from the Express Office, in person. However I shall not trouble myself much more about it. I have written to all the Stations around me - to St. Louis, Louisville &c &c.

I feel quite sure that you all will have to remain some time yet, for reasons you stated, & that was the main reason why I objected to staying back, not wanting to remain so long from home, & disliking the responsibility. Though I may be flattering myself to think of such a thing. I know that you must be enjoying yourselves very much, & will regret it a little, upon leaving. Really I feel very much attached to the place, & the good people of its vicinity, at whose hands I recd so much kindness. I never shall forget them I trust. The young Ladies, of whom you spoke, are well worthy of the good opinions of all. I would gladly have you remember me kindly to them all.

Present my kindest regards to the Misses Hardee & Miss Dumit (?) who were so kind as to have you remember them to me. What a glorious time you must have with them all at the "Hops"& at their homes & around generally. After all, Reese, what is this life without the good feelings of all our friends, & the friendship of all around? A few selfish souls may spurn such an idea, but those prompted by the ordinary feelings of humanity will ever cherish & cultivate the friendship of honest men & women.

I can fully appreciate the change from a Cadet to something else - kind of a transitory state of being. Some thing like a human voice; changing from boyhood to manhood. I will hardly say that I feel like a "gosling" though the term might be appropriately applied.

I hope the matinee, of which you spoke, turned out better than was anticipated. Wheeler wrote to me from Georgia a few days since. I heard from Lockett too. You can tell Miss C if she has not heard, that he is still living. Remember me to Charles, Morrill & Cully - to Burtwell &c.

I hope that we may yet have the pleasure of meeting again - talking over "old times". With my kindest wishes for your success & happiness, I am, as ever

Yr. Affectionate classmate,
M.H. Wright [Moses H Wright, USMA, Class of 1859]

Reese, I'm a little puzzled to know who on earth could have wanted my Photographs. I can account for only 4 - Misses D & C, Burt & Dod. I had 10. I guess folks will think me quite vain, to be distributing my "Pho'g" about so extensively.

1071 8/26/1859 *From:* O.O. Howard

To: My dear Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

OOH-1009

N. York City (Mr Bacons office)

Source: Bowdoin

N. York City (Mr Bacons office)
August 26th 1859

My dear Mother,

I will begin and give a brief account of our journey thus far, as doubtless it will be interesting to you. We went on very pleasantly from Mr Brewsters. Guy fell asleep in my arms just below Leeds junction and slept till we got to Yarmouth. Aunt Sarah Jones came aboard at Lewiston & went over with us to Auburn, so Lizzie had time enough to talk with her. After considerable search, I found a sophomoric student, a pleasant young man, by the name of Verrill, who kindly consented to deliver the package with which I was intrusted to Dellie. After we got to Portland I sent the family to Mr Waite's in a carriage and went myself to look after the baggage & secure a stateroom &c and then walked up. We had a lunch there & stopped to tea, started in good season & all walked to the boat, but Grace who rode in "Pudies" & papa's arms by turns. We were on board "the Montreal" some time before the boat left (some 15 minutes).

We were just leaving, when who should we find but Peleg Perley & his family. There was considerable swell & the boat began to rise & fall & rock sensibly. Mrs Perley felt sick, then Lizzie hastened to her room, soon Susan was taken & Guy declared there was something in his throat. But Guy & Grace were soon in bed & asleep & shewed no more signs of Sickness. Lizzie & Susan, however, differing from Charlie, were sick enough to do them some good. To add to the discomfort, it was quite foggy and an intermittent whistle kept the surrounding waters informed of our whereabouts. I was kindly offered a berth in a room nearly opposite Lizzie's, and after going in about ten & finding them all quiet, I went to my room & slept till morning.

We arrived in Boston very late somewhere about 8 a.m. and went with Perley under a heavy rain to the Unites States Hotel. Here we sat down for the day. I went to find Chas Mulliken, & with him went to his house in Ashland place. Mrs Mulliken then accompanied us to see Lizzie. We had a room for the day & the children got rested & refreshed before evening. Mr Perley went at 3 P.M. via Springfield. He said he had a "free pass" from Springfield home for himself & wife. It continued to rain all day. I purchased my tickets in the morning, but was told in the afternoon I had better go by another route (not the Fall River) on account of the storm, but I thought I would risk it - as I had got my tickets already. It cleared up & the sun came out just as we started and we had a delightful ride to Fall River.

We left Boston at the usual time 5 & ½ P.M. & were at Fall River by 7. We found Professor Bartlett of West Point on the cars. He told us of some of the changes at West Point. Lieutenants Baird, Slimmer and Blunt of the Mathematical Department have been ordered away and several officers of the other Departments, so much so that West Point will wear quite a new face socially, whether improved or not remains to be determined. We went on board the Empire State, got two rooms adjoining as I didnt like to leave my family, if it was going to be rough. Grace & Susan had a wide berth. They with Lizzie occupied one room & Guy & I the other. We went to bed before 9 & contrary to expectation had a smooth & pleasant night - all slept comfortably till morning. We got to the wharf near the Battery by 8 o'clock - then after sending my baggage to the boat "Thos. Powell" for West Point we walked across the Battery Park to the Brooklyn ferry. The children saw a Military Company with a band, all on horseback; just as we were crossing the street, they passed along playing.

We crossed to Brooklyn & went on up to Maria Tupper's, where Miss Maria gave us all a breakfast which was by this time particularly relished by the children. I have left them there, & am here looking after the vessel.

Perry & Silas have gone to Maine. Aunt had a portion of her cancer, or rather one of her cancer's removed. I have learned no further particulars about her than what we already know.

We shall go to West Point by the Thomas Powell this evening leaving the foot of Jay St at 3.45 P.M.

There is a small prospect of my being made Professor Church's first assistant. It will depend on the new officers ordered there, if either of them rank me I cannot obtain the place, if they do not I think Professor Church

will gladly give it to me. The advantage of being 1st assistant is that I will have ten dollars additional pay. Whatever may turn up I will have a new course of Mathematics to teach & will have to study more than heretofore.

As I am away from Lizzie & the children, they can send no message by this letter. I hope this will find you well & happy. God give you strength to pray for us for many years. I hope, my dear mother, you will remember me personally in your prayers, that I may not fall into temptation & that I may do my duty faithfully in the fear of God. Give my regards to all inquiring friends.

Very affectionately your son
O.O. Howard

1072 8/29/1859 *From:* R.H. Gilmore

To: R.B. Howard

OOH-1010

Bowd. Coll.

Patten

Source: Bowdoin

Bowd. Coll. Aug. 29. 1859.

My Dear Brother:

I am now in college and what to say about it I hardly know. I like what I have seen of college life well - much better than I had any hopes of when I was here at Commencement. I came here on Tuesday and on Wednesday morning I went to work as fast as I could to fix up my room. There were not more than 20 students here then. I got all settled before Friday night and was very glad that I came so early. Many of the boys have not got half of their things fixed yet. We commenced reciting this morning.

Our class is the largest that has ever entered at this season in the term. It numbers fifty five. Tutor Tucker thinks that there will be nearly seventy in all before the end of the Sophomore year. The sophomore class have had ten or twelve added to their class - most of them from Waterville College.

I went down to Bath on Saturday to see Ella having got the impression that she was going to Roxbury today and I thought I would like to see her before she went. I found that she started the day before. I came back as I intended in the evening train. I had a pleasant visit. I like Capt. Patten very much. I have never seen him before.

They are progressing finely with their house. It is now almost finished. Everything looks new and nice about it.

I made Mrs Frost a call on Friday evening. She said "give my regards to Rowland when you write him" and I suppose you have it. I like the fellows in my "end" very much. Many of them are juniors much more pleasant than it would have been had they been all Sophomore the way they are in the other end.

Nettie has gone to Portland to make a visit. I have not yet seen her. She will not teach this fall, as it was supposed a short time ago. Mrs Meryman frequently speaks of you. She inquired when you would again come this way on your way to Bath. Said she supposed you would stop there (at their house) if you could get time.

I went to the college prayer-meeting yesterday forenoon. It was very interesting. The number of students present about forty. They seemed to be all very much engaged. We shall probably have a class prayer meeting in our class. The number of Christians in our class I fear is small. I have been making some inquiries. All of the fellows on this story of this end are pious fellows, so we don't have much noise. I think I have got into a good neighborhood.

I read your letter at home. I should think that you had got into a rather hard place or else you was a little home sick when you wrote last to mother. I must study. Write me soon.

As ever your aff. Brother
R.H. Gilmore

R.B. Howard
Patten