

M. A. Wright

The Place a very handsome
one - & very pleasantly situated
on the Mississippi River -

I expect I find it quite
lonesome - There being no
young officer here with me.
Maj. Bell has been very kind
to me -

I enclose herewith a letter
from Savannah, which I should
have done previous to leaving
Ivy - but, as it came only a
day or two previous to the sad
news which summoned me home,
I neglected it -

I hope to hear from you
often - Though I fear I shall
not have the pleasure of seeing you
as I had anticipated, while at Ivy.

Give my love to Mrs. H. & to Jr. Robt.
& kiss dear little Guy Gracy - I hope
they have not forgotten me - Remember
me to Sister & wife - Prof. F. of E. & C. -
My the Lord keep you all for ever home -
Most truly, M. A. Wright

49494

Saint Louis Arsenal.

Saint Louis, Mo.:

Mich. 13. 1860.

My Dear Friend:

I will not fill
this page with gloomy sayings, nor
portray a dark future for myself,
saddened as has been my heart,
Since last I met you, in the
full enjoyment of the blessings of
this life, & gladdened by pleasant
anticipations of the future -

I will only mention, with
a grieved spirit, that the heaviest
of afflictions has fallen upon
me, & my Dear Brother & Sister -

The loss of a devoted, loving,
Christian Father, can only be fully
appreciated, by those, whose lot
is to have, to realize the same mis-
fortune - In earlier days, our

Sainted Mother was called to
her long home; away from the
sorrows & sin of this world
below, to a Heaven beyond
the Skies — Now, at a later day,
our Dear Father has been taken —

That both died in the full
triumphs of a saving faith,
is such consolation as if offered
by a happy reliever a blessed
Redeemer — such as would
bid us, wipe away the tear
of sorrow — But we would
not forget their sweet names,
nor cease to cherish the warm-
est love & affection for their holy
characters — We would not be
heedless of their kind remonstrances,
nor forget their tender watchings
over us, all through our lives —

We would listen to their gentle
callings, & give ear to their wise counsels —

But can we, can we, feel
otherwise, than sad & lonely? We
would cheerfully say — "all is well."
"All that Thou doest, is for our good."

But we hear not the kind morning
salutation — nor receive the happy
"Good-night" — "The Lord bless you" — as
we leave the family room, to seek
rest for our weary bodies —

At morn, the eye is bedimmed with
tears — at night, no gleeful laugh
betokens the gladness of our hearts —

But we will not murmur — for
we do have a hope in Christ —
We know that our Redeemer liveth,
& that our Dear Parents, are happy
with Him in Heaven —

You may have noticed
my transfer, to this station —

Having been here but a short
time — I cannot say, how I
will be pleased. I find the

Observer's Office

N.Y. Review Office March 16. 1860

My dear Sir. Your notes were with duly received. The article which you enclosed has not altogether declined but laid aside owing to the press of matter which we had on hand requiring more immediate insertion. On looking it over again I find it to have more exclusively local interest in the Western Coast than I supposed & as few of our papers reach there I conclude to return it to you with our thanks for your kindness in forwarding it.

Perusing upon the interest in the cause of religion especially in the Army which your letters express I take the liberty of saying to you that we received a few days since a communication from a correspondent at the South stating that in a circle with which he was connected there had been a discussion of the influence of a military education upon the religious character & making inquiry whether any revival had occurred at any of our Military Academies & whether any of the graduates of the institutions had entered the Gospel Ministry. I know that while the present excellent Bishop McHaine of Ohio was Chaplain at West Point there was some very special religious interest among the cadets & several hopeful conversions.

I know too that several eminent & excellent
Ministers were formerly connected with the
Academy but I have not the means of giving
specific information. If it is in your power
to gather any facts of such interest in con-
nection with Bishop W. Haines Chaplaincy
or in any other connection & which would
interest those connected with the army
as well as all others who love the cause
of Christ I should be obliged to you if you
would communicate them to me for
publication if consistent with your convenience
& your own feelings

Very truly & respectfully yours
Ed. G. Prime

Ed. M. Orver

I have prepared a short editorial article
giving the substance of the letter from your
friend in the Pacific Christian Advocate
& making an extract from his letter which
will be in the next Orver

R.B. Howard

Shewhegan Mch. 17. 60

My dear Mother

496

Charles must wait
his turn. His letter came last
& I will write him next:

I preach here tomorrow & return
to Bangor Monday. I was
away Tues. Wed. & Thurs on a
visit to Bath & Keallumell. My
Audience here was small last
Sabbath but the notice was
imperfect. The hall will be
full tomorrow & may the Lord
help me to declare his truth
with faithfulness. I am going
around among the people some-
but I don't want them to set
their hearts upon me as
Providence seems to forbid my
coming here. This is one of the
beautiful & picturesque villages
I ever saw & the terminus of
the R.R. & a very thriving place.

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We have a little church here also
are very poor generally but good:
I have a miss boarding place
at Kona, Sea, Eng. Judge Bells - He
is by no means so formidable
a man as his little name indi-
cates - being a little good natured
inoffensive Lawyer - The family
are all pious - I found Ella at
home & in better health than
before - Albert had just returned
from Sea - He had a terrible passage
from Singapore to Philadelphia:
He starts for his ship at 2 again
Monday - He is a stout, stern looking
fellow - but has very affectionate &
tender feelings - The mate died the last
voyage & he is now 1st mate of the
"Norman Sprague" - Lizzie is still in
Portland at the U. S. Hotel, trying
to be tortured into health
by Dr Fitch - Ella is going
Monday to stay a week with

her. She has been alone for some
time. I found Mother at Laura
Ann's. She ^(Mother) is not very well this
winter. They expect to get home
next week. She is in hopes
to obtain the girl from N.Y.
who was with Mrs. Foyers last
Summer & has written her. Henry
& Father are as hard workers
religiously as ever & Laura as kind
& thoughtful. Mother enjoyed
her visit to Bath & Mummich very
much. Vaughan is quite feeble.
I drove him out to Augusta
& back. He is willing to listen
& to talk about his soul & a
future State - but laments his
indifference in view of the truth.
Let us pray for the Spirit. That
alone can show him his need
of Christ. I said all I could.
He seems to hope that there
is no Hell. Mr. Strickfield is

very attentive to Aunt Ellen -
Will Grant has an appointment
at Lutter to some posts in
Arizona: & as the troops are
concentrating there he hopes to
make money - He thinks of leaving
Maine for good - At Bath I
gave a Lecture for Mr. Fisher
who was present & at H. we
enjoyed one of our old papers
meetings in the old place very
much - I wish that John ^(Stier) & George
have complied with your terms
You are certainly under obligations
to your family to demand more
good securing - I think he had
better sell his farm, & if his income
is sufficient take up one in
Cross town - It would be better
for Helen - but for her good
perhaps - I do wish poor
Laura could be left in peace
& the enjoyment of her own

Ellen = simple pleasures & pursuits =
appointments - Bangor - Feb. 20th
are here not seen an opportunity
hopes to till now to finish my letter.
of letter returned Mon: night = I
with I enjoyed an unusual "liberty"
Fishes Sunday afternoon & there is
at St. manifest a tender & prayer-
full joyful spirit in the little church
see note wh. I have been ministering
John^(St.) & Gen. Lewis has just been
in town & inquired for you kindly.
obliged Mr. Malby is sick & he wishes
demand me to preach for them some.
he had I may when my present
engagements are closed = I
we in have already preached there -
he has (Command St.) Price = Intimations
be go^g have been given me that they
would like to have me in
Bremer - but nothing official =
in peace It would be pleasant to be
over to near Bangor on Aban air

acct = I hope, however that
he won't mention it so as
to reach Maine: as no one
in the Territory knows of
the talk yet = I preach at
Lincoln next Sabbath - Supplying
Island Falls by exchange - The
next three Sabbaths I expect to
spend at St. Stephens N.B.

Unless I can get released
from an engagement wh. "

Clapmatt made there for
me = I am always interested
to hear of your experience
& of your meetings = The
Supt. does not know how much
you have "accomplished" =

The Day of Judgment will
reveal it all - God sees
all & never forgets = I want
to ask you a question - Shall
you be soon ordered away
from West Point. unless that
be any inducement to

you to resign? Charles speaks
as if he would stay till you
far longer. It would be a great
comfort for Mother to have
him - but his own highest
good is to be consulted first
of course = Tell Guy that Uncle
Rawland is very sorry to hear
that he was sick. he would
like to see those "tools" he
hears so much about - Give
him a kiss & ask him if
he would be willing to come
& live a while with Uncle W.
& Auntie Ellen - by & by =

Rev Dr. Lappan & Mr Webb inquired
particularly for you when I
was at Augusta - Mrs Blaine
has her third child - a few
days old = Cousin Lydia is
still quite unwell - They are
to move to Milford - 14 miles
above or soon as she is able =
The A. R. R. is more embarrassed

than her: The Bath manorment
has crossed the Portland people
& the present management is
bankrupt, & the "coupons" unpaid.

It may soon pass into the
hands of the bondholders - Any-
way, Father gets nothing -

Give my best love to the
ladies of the family Mrs Figgie
& Miss Grace & you & Charles
may take all that is left
over -

Your Loving Brother
Portland

P.S. Direct to Bangor as
usual. Eliza's classmate
Lam King is teaching at
Kendall's mills - Assistant
in a boarding school - I
saw Nellie at Bangor: He looks
pretty thin & pale but said
he was well -

I need and desire your prayers
so weak am I in the power
of Christ's love.

May God bless you Howard
in answer to my poor cold
petitions.

Yours in the Saviour
Sumner.

Sumner

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Manchester Mass.
March 24. 1860

Dear Friend Howard.

Your most excellent
letter reached me yesterday.
Your kindness is apparent
in every line, and I know
you will be glad to hear
that my health is so
much restored that I
will apply for orders to
join my company the 1st
of next month when I
intend returning to A. C.
and if possible I shall
spend the following Sabbath
at West Point. being most

anxious to see you all before
going to Remondall. I regret to
hear that any of our dear
friends are under affliction.

At times I get discouraged
but how much should I
rejoice for renewed vigor of
body. & I pray the love of
Christ may grow in me
with returning health.

Your labors in the little
prayer meeting must yet
result in adding stars
to your crown of rejoicing,
the promises of God being well sure.
Poor Wright has severely felt his
Savior's hand in the removal
of his loving pious parent. yet

I fear not for him when he
can see the hand that
dealt the blow. You know
my ideas of army life and
nothing now keeps me
where I am but a sense of
indebtedness to the govern-
ment, although my heart shinks
from the prospect before me.

My health, promotion and all
seem to say "you are out
of the path of duty," yet I am
unwilling to leave with my
health impaired and will go
to my company and do my
best. You must remember me
to Mr & Mrs F. & Clara with an
assurance of my love and esteem.
You shall see me & then we
will commune as of old.

ment as practiced at this Institution -

There is at this place a strong religious influence - and while I have been benefited by my bodily infirmities, I feel that I have also grown in the knowledge & the love of God. I have met some lovely Christian Characters during my sojourn here - and I have deemed it a rare & special privilege to enjoy their society. My health is now so much improved that I am justified in rejoining my Regiment soon - I think now that I shall start for my post; Fort Randall, Nebraska, sometime in May - I feel that I am going where my Christianity will be tried. When I will receive rebuffs instead of encouragements - temptations instead of examples - and a total absence of religious influences instead of the holy association I have enjoyed so long - May I therefore ask you, my friend, to write to me & give me your experience, and such suggestions as you may deem suitable to my situation & prospects -

I need not assure you that both my wife and I self count largely upon your words to comfort & strengthen us - and that we earnestly pray that you may long be spared to labor effectively in the Lord's Vineyard -

Give my kind regards to your wife, and believe me your sincere friend - O. A. Mack

Clifton Springs,
Ontario Co. N. Y.

March 27th 1860.

My Dear Friend:

Without apology or circumspection I proceed to open the way for a correspondence which I fully believe may, thro' God's assistance, prove mutually instructive & strengthening to us in running the race that is set before us - You have for some years been fighting under the banner of the Lord Jesus - you are now in the midst of the enemy's camp, where you have had to combat single handed, and perhaps still do; You have stood up for Jesus among scoffers and the ungodly - have endured neglect & reproach for his sake - now I want to know how it is with you today - if God has blessed your endeavors - strengthened your hands - and made bold your heart? Since I saw you in the fall of 1858, when you told me your

labors at West Point, and of their then apparent unfruitfulness. I have often conversed about you, & the glorious cause in which you are engaged, with my wife, and she has taken a deep interest in your welfare, and often expressed a desire to hear how you prospered. There are so many good officers of the army who labor openly for our blessed Saviour that she thinks they need the special interests & prayers of their friends in Christ to sustain & encourage them in the good work. She has read of Vickers, & Hammond, & Havelock, in the English Service, and the knowledge of their eminent piety & large spheres of usefulness has convinced her that there are really no insuperable obstacles in the profession of arms to a truly Christian life, and has encouraged her to hope that our own Service may be ^{adorned} with bright & shining lights in the Christian cause.

You know I was anxious to be placed on duty at the Mil. Academy at the time I saw you last. I have had occasion to thank God since, that I was not: for, besides the feebleness of my health

which I soon afterwards found would not have permitted me to follow that kind of life, I was placed in a sphere of duty & surrounded by influences of such a nature that I was speedily brought to a closer contemplation of the divine Goodness and Wisdom and Mercy, and to feel a deeper love myself for my Redeemer, and a stronger desire to lay hold of his precious promises and make my calling & election sure. I had already been confirmed in the Epis. Church - I ^{took} charge of a class of young men in the Sunday School of my Church and very soon became very much interested in their welfare & spiritual progress. We had a large & intelligent Bible Class in our Church also, and I became an active member of it, and devoted much time to the study of the Scriptures. These duties served to increase my knowledge of the Bible, and, almost as a natural consequence, to increase my faith & zeal in the doctrines of the Christian religion.

In the spring of last year my health was so poor that I was induced to try the Water Cure treat-

W. White

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Portland March 30 1860

Lieut. O. Howard

Dear Sir

Your favor of 27

Enclosing coupons for interest on
Rail Road Bonds, is recd. I will attend
to collecting and forward the amt
also dividend on Bank Stock
all of which will be due next
week - shall then also get certifi-
cate of four shares Bank Stock
I am aware that Rail Road Stock
give more interest at present than
Bonds - but Shares are precarious &
may fail - while the Bonds in a few
years will ^{be} worth par value -
in the subject of Religion there
is no new interest with us - but good
attention ^{is} still manifested on the
subject -

ee4

July 11/73

we are all enjoying comfortable health - Susie & her husband are with us -

all join in sending much love to yourself & Family

Your Affectionate

Uncle

E. Mait

(H. M.)

See 66

500

N.C. Mil. Institute

Charlotte, N.C. March 31st 1860

Dear Howard;

Your kind letter was received some time ago, and one thing and another has caused me to put off replying to it until the present time. We are all quite well, and send our love to you, and yours. Little Annie is getting to be quite a large girl now, and her Sister Eula is progressing quite rapidly. I have not written to Genl. Roberts for the Board of Directors haven't given me any specific directions to write, and I am waiting to hear from them. The two vacant chairs of which I spoke, have been filled, but

next October in all probability we shall want another to fill the chain of Engineering, and for this Lieut. Roberts is most eminently fitted, having filled such a place as an Engineer officer in the U.S. service for three years. I like my post very well, though as Commandant I have rather more to do than most, and some of the discipline is unpleasant at times. Everything for the last two months has gone on quite smoothly, and I hope and believe we are succeeding to raise the moral tone of the Corps much higher than it usually is even in Military Institutions, and therefore we hope we shall have little difficulty in the future; but as the Maj. (Maj. Hill) says, boys

are the most uncertain things in the world", and there is no telling how long we may remain successful. Give our love to Mrs. D. & children. Charlotte is quite pleasantly situated, though the want of a stream of any size near at hand seems like a defect in the original selection of the site. We have now about 130 Cadets, of whom 105 are boarders in the Institute, the rest day scholars; All are subject to Mil. discipline. Excuse me as 'tis just parade time.

Yours friend
Charles Bee

Wm Howard

of you when attending
the various means
of grace with which
this City is blessed.

I intend in the course
of these weeks to send
you two capital articles
by Dr. V. on the "Lay-
Ministry of the Word."
They will I am sure
encourage your heart.

Meanwhile be strong in
the Lord & in the power
of His Might — God bless
you, Mrs Howard, and
the dear children — So
all I send love

Ever yr attached friend
Wm Howard

1433 Filbert St
Philadelphia
Sat. Sunny March 31st
1860

My dear friend

I intend sending you
with this note a pamphlet
containing an account of
The Work of God in Phil^{ia}.
I am sure it will interest
you deeply and when you
have done all the good you
wish with it at West Point
will you be so kind as to
send it to Mr. Robert. I
dare say, if you have
not his address, my Mother
or Sister can give it you.
It is the most interesting
account I ever met

My dear family
are all well.

I am
very
truly
yours

with, concerning any
work of this nature.

I have not yet procured
a copy of Rev. Potter's
Drinking Wreath of Society
but will try to remem-
ber to do so.

If you have time
will you write me a
little about Nancy's recent
death. Dear child! It was
a sad and sudden piece
of intelligence to me. If,
as I fondly trust, she
fell asleep in Jesus
is will be no longer
sad. Was she able to
speak with you? And

did she give any evi-
dence of love to the Sa-
vior? She was a dear
attentive child in her
class and perhaps, having
a retiring reserved dispo-
sition may have had a
deeper than experience
than we know of.

Will you express to Mrs.
Rose my sympathy and
tell her I earnestly pray
that God may bless
and sanctify this afflic-
tion to her ~~and~~ spiritual
good. - Have you been
to N.Y. and heard Mr
Guinness? I often think