

O.O. Howard

Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> 1860

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West Point N.Y.

December 1<sup>st</sup> 1860

My dear Mother,

I feel slightly tired tonight and will only write you a few lines to tell you that Sizzie presented me with another little boy this afternoon, about ten minutes past one. She labored hard but every thing was favorable. Her first pains began a little after four, but were not severe till after eight. She is doing well. The boy weighed  $11\frac{3}{4}$  lbs by my scales pretty large though I don't look so. Amy & Grace are delighted. Guy wants to know if he didn't come in thro. the door or thro. the window or Mrs. Tom's back door. Sizzie sent to Newbury for a nurse. She was to come down today - but the baby was

Born & dressed before she got here.  
Mrs Simpson, a colored woman,  
who sells candy & cake to the cadets  
acted as nurse. Dr McDougal,  
an aged Surgeon - was kind patient  
and attentive. Our Heavenly Father  
has indeed blessed us. It is thus  
He accumulates his mercies upon  
us. May he fit this child for  
his own service & with him glorify  
His Holy Name. One of my  
cherished hopes is that my children  
may be faithful servants of God.

Give my love to Laura &  
tell her she is bigger & stouter  
than Sizie - also to Uncle & John  
& his family - My best regards to  
the neighbors - love to father.

Affectionately yours son  
P.O. Howard

January 14. 1864

I have been very much  
refreshed & my back stiffened  
up by the presence  
& the brave Christian spirit  
of these men of God. the  
Missionaries: Rev. D.C. Marsh,  
for 11. years in Morul: & Rev.  
W. Lindley. 25. years in So: Africa:  
Lone we sent us a Napan paper  
with Dr MacLurie Leman on  
the subject of Charles & his  
Sister death. Charles was  
invited to Prof. Shepard's  
thanksgiving here nor heard  
from him since, nor from  
home. All goes the coastings  
good here. He must kiss the  
bab' brother for Uncle & Auntie.  
He & Grace will love him very  
much. God grant if she will  
keep all those doll babies now!  
With great love to you both -  
to all the childrens Alice  
yrs afft Bro: Rowland

Ella says the  
new place  
is going  
& the baby  
is coming

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January 11 Sec. 5<sup>th</sup> /60

Dear Brother &amp; Sister

We con-  
gratulate you most heartily  
on this new acquisition  
in numbers & blessings.

Ella says she "is just as  
glad as if she had got him  
herself!" and I am sure  
the letter telling of the arrival  
of the new comers and of  
Lizzie's safety made us  
both very glad & happy.

You are remembered at  
our family prayers. We  
have prayers with the family  
we board with the same  
that you do, and Ella  
& I always read & pray  
together before we retire.

We have been having  
some intensely interesting

W.M. meeting here this week.  
My heart has been deeply  
moved for the degraded  
millions of the Earth and  
I have resolved God help-  
ing me - to try to do more  
for them - and our people  
seem to be aroused also -  
Mr Farnell who is from  
Greene & was in Augusta  
& knew you there. made some  
Excellent remarks in the  
Prayer meeting last evening.

I spoke of our power &  
duty & privilege of giving - He  
said - "Three years ago he  
paid ~~he~~ a cent a week for the  
support of the Gospel - He was  
converted about that time &  
has increased his donations  
till now he gives 75.cts  
per week - He has left off  
tobacco & thus saves \$35 -

9 years old

per year. His little boy - his  
idol - died a year ago last  
night. he said he had been  
thinking this week that he  
would give what it would  
have taken to feed, clothe &  
Educate his little boy, to  
the children of Heathen parents.  
You know I told you that  
lately among us -  
"many little children  
have gone to Heaven to live"  
A widow who has lost two  
her only ones - brought their  
jewels to the missionaries -  
Parents who had lost a little  
boy - gave them ~~with~~  $\frac{1}{2}$  piece that  
kept in his little bank - A  
mother who had lost a sweet  
little girl - gave her \$5.00  
gold piece. Would these  
things be so unless the  
Spirit of God were here?

The baby is well & sends a lot of his love to grandmother —  
What name?

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West Point N.Y.

Wednesday Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> 1860

My dear Mother,

Lizzie & the baby have had no draw-backs. She has a good appetite, looks cheerful & happy. Monday we had a light fall of snow. I gave the children a sleigh-ride yesterday. Guy & Grace & Katy Carroll are having a nice time riding this morning.

Lizzie was very sorry for Laura. How is she now? Give her much love & sympathy. The baby's corrected weight was  $8\frac{1}{2}$  lbs the 3<sup>rd</sup> day. Much love to Father. We are expecting December & are anxious for the results.

R. F. Jr. Son

Ots —

Inches

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8

O.O. Leoward

Dec 5<sup>th</sup> 1860

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W. W. and North

fall will miss fall

and will make us much more

expensive to ship

and a great many

will be missed

and a good many

a good many

missed with

and will make us much more

expensive to ship

and a great many

will be missed

and a good many

will be missed

and a tip for Guy, Grace &  
the little one. - Perhaps  
you would like some advice in  
regard to the naming of the new  
comer from the various uncles -  
My remark is "don't name him  
Rodolphus" - "A word to the wise  
is sufficient" - Please mit  
me often - and it will give  
me much pleasure to answer  
your very aff. res.

R. H. Glazier

St. O. O. Howard  
West Point  
N.Y.

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Holden Dec 7. 1860  
My dear brother:

Your letter of the 1<sup>st</sup>  
inst came to hand last night and I  
hasten to write you in time. I have  
a very pleasant school in a pleasant  
neighborhood. My school is not large  
there being only about 30 in all  
and the average attendance is not  
more than 25. Most of them are  
very sedent, but I have some  
roguish boys who are continually  
getting into mischief. As yet I have  
used no stick or ruler in the way  
of corporal punishment but I  
think I shall be under the  
necessity of doing so ere long -  
My boarding place is quite pleasant.  
I have the same that Charles  
had. Mr. Newcomb is a very  
good man and has a great many

green wrap and sayings. Mrs. Kinney  
has recently obtained a "Hope" that she  
is a child of God. She is quite a  
pleasant woman and says to do what  
she can to make my stay here pleasant.  
Mr. Louthworth the Congregationalist  
Clergyman I find to be a very  
pleasant man. I like him very  
much - He was in my school this  
morning in the capacity of visiting  
Committee - He seemed to be very  
much pleased with my course of  
instruction - I hardly know what to  
say in regard to the communication of the  
tidings of the birth of another son. That  
is the reason why I have not said anything  
about it before - I suppose I ought to make  
some narration concerning so important an  
event, but as I never had occasion to make  
any remarks in regard to such an ~~important~~  
affair I believe I will let the matter slide  
after assuring you that I will do as  
you requested - I left home

a week ago today - Mother was  
much better than she had been  
for weeks before - The cavity on  
her limb had been decreasing in  
size for a long time so that it  
was about the size of a thumb  
now - The ends of the bones are nicely  
healed a small Thanksgiving  
i.e. the number at the table was  
small - I was the only one of mother's  
children present and Roland Gilmore  
was the only one of father's children  
there besides me - We have been  
having quite a snow storm in  
these parts so that we now have  
good sleighing - Charles sent me  
a letter yesterday and enclosed in  
it his regards from you -  
I have received numerous invitation  
to call at the various houses in  
my neighborhood - I shall make one  
tonight after I have finished  
this - Give my love to Lizzie

Walter Green has been next the last letter.  
When I got your letter we were just  
beginning Hebrew - first it hard we  
have an excellent teacher in Prof Smith  
now we are having 2 lessons a day  
being tutored by Rev. Mr. Perkins in  
the forenoon - He drills us on the verbs  
while Prof. S. lectures upon the same  
occupying about  $\frac{3}{4}$  hour in thus giving  
out a lesson for next day &  $\frac{1}{4}$  in having  
us pronounce or read (it was more like spelling out)  
the Hebrew of the 1<sup>st</sup> part of the Bible - we  
shall both Hebrew & Greek soon. I can't  
think of translating - seems to me you have  
got an admirably = I was gratified to hear  
Alice as well as Mrs. Bent & Hobart were  
in your S. School - All you wrote was faint but  
against no special answer, I believe - I fear  
my letter to Johnny was either too long or too  
poorly as it brings no return - I feel anxious  
to know how Lizzie gets on & the little one with  
the dark hair - from mother via Farmington -  
Did you mean to give away your hunting - O I wish we  
would keep it - It would remind you great grandchild  
how their ancestor spent many days at West Point -  
It won't fade you know - I would gladly extend

P.S. Delle has taught two weeks - he  
is true Somerset like all "School-masters"  
but I hope will get along successfully 46<sup>9</sup>

Bangor Dec. 17, 1860

My dear brother

It may seem rather  
late for me to congratulate you & Lizzie  
on the happiness of having another of  
those gifts from Heaven which  
bring joy also to all your friends  
and we expect will be a blessing  
to the world. My feelings however  
have not grown less ardent nor my  
prayers less frequent in behalf of you all  
& especially Lizzie, altho' I have  
delayed writing - I find a great deal  
to occupy my time as it seems you  
do as usual. There is something almost  
every evening - Lately I debated whether  
it was not my duty to attend the "Society  
of Inquiry" which <sup>meets</sup> in the room beneath our -  
It is for the promotion of the Missionary Cause  
- meets once in two weeks, alternating with  
the Rhetorical Soc. - After a half hour in

devotional exercises - We have two reports  
from reports from different quarters of the world  
by two members appointed for the purpose  
at a previous meeting. The world is divided  
into the 8 grand div. & each div. is  
assigned to an executive Committee - so  
certain ones of these Committees report at each  
meeting and have it for their duty to collect  
all they are of interest with regard to their  
particular field - Tues. eve - our Chas.  
foreign meeting takes an hour & sometimes  
the Carbarette meets which being for the  
benefit of the Laniinary we are expected to  
attend when invited - Wed. comes the  
regular church prayer meeting which I  
find it advantageous to attend - Thurs.  
nothing regular but always something.  
Last week there was a social gathering  
of the Sabbath School "opening of the  
boxes" containing the contributions of each  
class - I went to get acquainted with my  
class - most of whom were present. It consists  
of 7 young ladies 16 or 18 years of age.

The boxes contained this sum \$275.00 -  
We had a little practice at singing before &  
during the counting of the money a social  
season - then being seated we were furnished  
with a tray of Apples, Nuts, raisins &c. The latter  
in little packages for each school teacher - after  
the music sing - Prof. Harris offered a few  
remarks & closed with prayer - This was at  
a vestry designed in purpose for such occa-  
sions. - Friday eve - Immediately after tea  
which is at 6, we have a general prayer  
meeting of the students - then there is a  
Sabbath School teachers' meeting at the  
Vestry which I would by no means miss -  
We discuss then the lesson for the next lot.  
Students take turns in reading - There are  
6 girls in the school - 3 of my class & 3 of  
the middle - 3 of my lot. Mrs. I have  
made calls - one upon Mrs. Deenett at  
Gen. Stevens' week ago & at Prof. Shepard's  
last Sat. - Gen. S. & wife invariably inquire  
about us & great interest in you. They hope  
you will spend a year or two here. I

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this letter another that but think  
I ought to draw it to close & go  
into the meeting - the P. O. is in that  
room - the students coming the hours, and  
taking turns, each week. You perceive  
how conveniently situated I am - Boys  
Rec. Library & Reading room is immediately  
over wood is in the cellar - How  
much I should enjoy having you  
here while I am - Last Sabbath  
while listening to Prof. Morris I longed  
to have you there - It is like a feast  
this preaching - only it is all tem-  
perate - nothing unhealthy -

We are all watching the daily  
news from Washington & the South with  
intensest interest - but probably we are  
as others you - Tomorrow or perhaps this  
beautiful moonlight night, when the  
stars are shining so clear & bright out  
of their depth of blue as tho' nothing can-

usual over transpiring below, Louisa  
Carolina makes her exit from the Union.  
I am disposed as yet to use no phrase-  
ology which may imply that our glorious  
United States, as a government, is near  
its end - I hope the Pres. with Gen Scott  
to back him will vindicate our federal rights.  
What are the prevailing opinions & feelings  
at West Point? - Any Cadets recd? -  
Tell Johnny Weir I have joined the  
Gymnasium Association of the city &  
spend about an hour in Gymnastics daily  
They allow about 50 of us students to do  
a year for \$6.0. usual price is from \$10 to \$15 per  
apiece - - Expect brother will visit Renss  
tomorrow on the occasion of Stockholders meeting  
Cases of Diphteria in Farmington - Is Mr  
Mey fully recovered? How much I would enjoy  
spending a few days with Sam now & calling to  
see my friends there - Especially Mrs. G. & Stephen  
& Johnny Weir - Where is Miss Blanche? Tell  
her I feel the want of her history in my school  
fall - I thought of trying to introduce it - But I  
must allow myself at least do it we have been  
over affected Bro. Charles -

O.O. Howard  
Dec. 17. 1860

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West Point N.Y.

Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> 1860

Dear Mother,

I am getting anxious about you. After such a memorable event as the birth of another grandchild, I did expect to get a line from you - but perhaps you have been too busy to write. I hope you & father are well. We have had the good providence of God with us all the time. Sizig has steadily gained strength & the baby has done well. Sizig says he is a nearly strong child. Grace has had a cold a good while, which gives us some anxiety because it has affected her hearing. So much so that she asks you over again, when you say anything to her in the ordinary

town. The Dr says it will soon pass away. Baby is strong & robust. He delights in climbing. He was 5 yrs old yesterday - when he got four slaps on the back and a present of a case containing four books called Willie books. We have not named the baby yet. What shall we call him? Does not Father strike the political sky is rather equally at this time?

I hope we shall get a letter soon. I have heard from the boys since I wrote last. How is Laura? I hope she is able to "dwell in the secret place of the Most High, through abiding under the shadow of the Almighty." I hope my dear mother, that your own heart is filled with peace - love to Father & kind remembrances for the neighbors. Aff. by son  
~~and the world over this~~

Nov. 1. 1863

Leeds, December 23, 1860.

My dear Son,  
I am writing you from my home at  
a beautiful babe, I went there not know-  
ing anything about it, I felt as though to look  
Laura was an object of sympathy.  
With us all, the babe had been skinned  
two days it was a daughter, the marks  
of death were on the head that showed  
what saved the mother's life, 80 hours  
of agony previous to taking the life  
of the child, and his life was at stake  
her strength was fast leaving her I  
have not been there since, but I saw  
L. at church last sabbath she stood one  
half the day, we had a shock of an  
earthquake in the midst of the service  
it was the most distinct & ever heard  
and made a column impression on  
me for one, Mr Chaper had exchanged  
with Mr Smith from Wayne he  
all stopped entirely in his sermon and  
when he resumed his speaking he  
spoke very solemnly to it as from God,  
since my long silence I have thought  
of many things that I wished to say to

With a cheerful heart  
and I hope a thankful one, I commence writing  
you this Sabbath evening the sun is now  
sinking out of sight, and leaves a golden  
hue far up before it reaches the red and  
blue stripes but the whole aspect rather  
bespeaks a blustering night we had seven  
inches of light snow fall yesterday and last  
night which will probably pile up to-night  
your last letter was rather a scold but as  
I am doing my work alone and cannot at all  
times command my time my health is  
writing has been lost sometimes  
good, I believe I can say my limb is healed  
I was very happy to hear in each one of  
your letters that Lizzie is so comfortable and hope  
nothing will befall her, and here the warmth  
comes she will recover her full strength, baby  
must have a name, and it belongs to his parents to  
name him I always liked your father's name  
and would perpetuate it in this little son of  
yours if agreeable to his parents,

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yesterday 17

I am glad to hear that Guy is so healthy, I thought of him his birth day it was on the sabbath the same as his first birth day I am sorry to hear that Grace has such a bad cold so early in the winter & fear she may not recover from it until warm weather Grandmother often finds her thoughts wandering away to West Point, imagining how each individually is employed, still hoping all is well, the disease of the throat, that has cut off so many children in Auburn and Lewiston the mouth part does not prevail at West Point your letters are very precious to me, more so than ever since I am so much confined and alone, tell Grace the white kitten is grown to be a cat, and stays in the house with me the most of the time, she is now sitting in the same chair that I do as I lean forward to write just creeps in behind me and there is now, your father is very sore on politics he says many rash sayings about the ~~President~~ and ~~and~~ ~~co-existant~~ President and ~~class-mat~~ I cannot think that any one of our united

States will ever think they can sustain a government alone, there are so many connecting ties to be rent in sunder it seems to me that every Christian in these United States must pray earnestly to God to guide all things in his righteous way, I cannot think that the people of these United States will ever spill each others blood I recollect your Grandfather Howard once said to me, some think the curse of slavery will be the means of destroying the ~~united~~ <sup>United</sup> States, I may live to see the saying verified, but I cannot but have a cheering hope that all will yet be amicably settled I hope there will a powerful peacemaker arise as I think Henry Clay was, in Mr Calhoun's time, I have received a news paper from Boston containing a portion of the sermon preached on the death of Abn T. Sargent and his sister, a beautiful sermon for the occasion our neighbors and friends are in good health at this time, I saw Laura's babe, it was

I am gratified to know that the  
4<sup>th</sup> January, will be very generally observed  
in this City, as a day of fasting & prayer.

Let the inconsistent Danes laugh as  
they may, well may we humble ourselves  
before an offended God, & implore His  
blessings & protection. "Be not de-  
ceived, God is not mocked."

Should our worst fears not be realized,  
& should all things work together harmo-  
niously, I assure you, that nothing would  
please me so well, as to have you &  
your good lady come to St. Louis - Room  
in abundance - Mr & Mrs. Bent can  
tell you that - & if they tell you what a  
set of quarters they occupied here, you  
can form some idea of my loneliness,  
when I tell you that I live in three rooms.

We are very busy in the shops now - repairing  
& altering some 5000 muskets & rifles for the U.S.

Give my love to Mrs. Howard & to  
the children - Merry Christmas & Happy  
New Year to all - Lamb to my friends  
S. H. Howard Wm. Jr. her friend  
W.H. Wright

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St. Louis Arsenal:

Dec. 25. 1860.

My very dear friends:

Being pre-  
vented from leaving my room  
today, owing to a very severe cold  
& sore throat, I thought I could  
not better occupy a few mom-  
ents of my time, than in writing  
to you - acknowledging the receipt  
of your kind favor, which came  
to hand in due time -

I have been suffering since  
Saturday with my throat: & I  
must say, I find it very trying  
to have to stay in doors for even  
these few days - I am getting  
better now, & hope soon to be all  
right -

Will my letter, most certain-  
ly, would fail to be an "importunat"

of the present state of my feelings,  
w<sup>n</sup> I to neglect speaking of  
the Crisis, which now occupies  
the thoughts not only of Politicians  
& partizan leaders, but of the entire  
people - & unfortunately has in-  
truded to a dangerous extent, upon  
The pious thoughts of our Clergy -  
& the Church - Not that they are  
put from all care concerning  
our government - but that the  
excitement has led to so great a  
provision of the rights of the  
Sacred desk - Politics, are pre-  
ached from the pulpit, of the most  
degrading nature - The basest pas-  
sions seem to have gained the upper  
hand - & instead of conciliatory  
for giving, friendly & cadiac measures  
being urged, we hear only bitter  
invectives on the adverse political  
organization - No brotherly love is  
practiced - but bitter hatred & war to

to the knife - To gain popularity  
with the states, seems to be the  
ruling passion in some sects -  
When we see religious bodies,  
passing resolutions for Secession  
&c, to what other conclusion  
can we come - But we, of  
course, are not prepared to Judge.

It is needless for me to speak  
to you, of the suffering among the  
poor, in our City - Persons familiar  
with such things, can fully appreciate  
what must <sup>be</sup> the extremity to which  
all are driven -

What think the "Knowing ones"  
in your part, of the signs of the times.  
All in these regions have abandoned  
their <sup>claims to</sup> prophetic knowledge, & say "Cant  
tell", "Cant tell" - Truly are we being  
severely scourged - & brought low on  
account of our iniquities - The Great  
Ruler of all things, Knoweth what is best  
for us - & indeed, His ways are unknown to us.

Wm H. Monroe

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Wallowell Dec 27/60

my dear Otis

I do not know whether you have been aware that Fanny has for the past two weeks been so sick that her life has been despained of. She has been troubled with a cough since August last but about two weeks ago she began to fail very rapidly - Mr Otis informed Maria how sick she was and I brought her on to H. on Saturday

Yesterday at a quarter after three her soul took its flight as quietly & gently as a little child falling asleep - Her mind has been at rest as to her future since she was made aware of her true condition - Mrs Brooks

the Erie clergyman has  
been very kind and attentive  
to her, coming to see her  
every day - She says he has  
never known such entire  
peacefulness in the hour of  
death in anyone - She did  
not seem to have a single doubt  
and talked of her approaching  
end as quietly as you or I  
would talk of any ordinary sub-  
ject - Hers was the "peace of  
God which passeth understanding"  
Her funeral is to be on Saturday  
Maria & all the others are well  
We left Vaughan Otis & Anna  
Lindner to keep house for us  
in W.P.

Yours truly  
W.S. Muniello

his direction. I hope the national  
feast will not be in vain - of all  
would pause for the little space  
of one day & turn their thoughts to  
God. the result may be happy - for  
He is able & willing to bless. Guy  
from his pants filled with presents Christmas  
morning & so did Grace. - They went to  
a Christmas tree Christmas eve at the  
Chapel where I have my S School. The  
next night Mr Carroll had a tree below.  
& on the next night I took the children  
to Professor Borrelli's to another tree.  
Grace is still a little deaf. Hubby is  
well & grows & Sizie has been about the  
house for quite a long time - Mr left  
the house three weeks. Sizie has good  
reason for thankfulness & better so have we  
all at the great mercy of the Lord. Poor  
Laura I am sorry for her - hope she will  
soon be well. Give my love to Father &  
Kind regards to the neighbors - I had a  
letter from Rowland today. A merry  
Christmas & a happy new year to you  
& Father - Affectionately yours son  
J.J. Howard

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West Point N.Y.

Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 1860

My dear Mother.

The old year is  
just closing and I doth know  
that I can do better than spend  
a few moments in writing you.  
The past year I have had a good  
many thoughts said a good many  
words & done many acts. They  
are all past - real. Some I have  
passed over as of little moment  
may have been most weighty &  
some I have thought important  
may be without significance before  
God. We have not a very just appre-  
ciation of what is useful & what is not.  
but this much is true that the past  
rests with God - it cannot be amended.  
To-night I would confess my shortcomings

and my other sins & renew my  
covenant with God. to renounce sin  
& strengthen my purpose to do his  
will. The state of the country is  
alarming in the extreme. It is arming  
arming everywhere. Passion & prejudice  
has gone so far, that I expect civil war  
before any settlement is had. Boas resigned.  
South Carolina Seceded. The president timid.  
Golds upsetting the treasury - Baily & Russell  
robbing the government. The Sec. of war -  
(sending heavy guns from Pittsburgh south  
to Forts whose foundations are hardly  
laid, then getting angry because Major  
Anderson neither acted as a fool nor  
a coward) tendered his resignation.

South Carolina exhibits a hostile front. takes  
Fort Moultrie & Castle Pinckney & the  
Charleston Arsenal. & also a United  
States vessel &c. How rapidly events  
succed each other. A civil war is  
by far the most horrible for the  
officers of the army. Associated together

by education & so many social ties. They  
will either shrink away into some  
other profession or have to meet each  
other in deadly array. Very few Cadets  
have yet left except those who were  
worthless. Two very fine young men  
left a day or two ago. Alabamians I  
believe. The causes of our trouble  
cannot be easily traced. Slavery is not  
the sole cause. Good men have shrank  
from offices of public trust. Infidelity -  
licentiousness & all sorts of wickedness,  
have prevailed amongst our public  
men. This of itself shews somewhat  
of the character of our people. Some portions  
have been grossly wicked, and other  
portions have allowed business & private  
interests to absorb them, & been sadly  
negligent of the public welfare. Who  
was not sinned against God. How much  
then it becomes every soul at the  
close of this year to humble himself before  
almighty God & implore his forgiveness &