
1204 1/1/1861 *From:* [RB Howard]

To: Dear Otis [OO Howard]

OOH-1145 [Farmington]

Source: Bowdoin

[ca Jan. 1861] [Farmington] [See Note 1]

Dear Otis,

Ella has given a little outline of our family. I wonder if I can add any touches while she is going to bed. Our room is entirely away from the rest of the family, it being formally an office, & was finished off lately by Jacob A. We had red drapes - very elegant - two bright winter pictures belonging to the house & quite a no. of pictures of our own. Ours is a fireplace 2/3 the size of the north room one in Leeds. It troubles me to study with Ella in the room, but I hope to form the habit.

Mrs Cutler keeps but one girl regularly, but the girls sister of 11 is here most of the time & a French washer-woman comes Fridays, & we put our washing out seldom costing us more than 33 cts per week, generally 25. Miss Abbot's pursuits are entirely literary - she does nothing about the house & both the sisters are in rather feeble health. The house is full of the Abbott books. Guy would have a fine time looking at the pictures & hearing the stories.

Mrs Cutler is 51 & Aunt Sallucia a little more, both thin. Mrs C has one eye a little turned round. She is the widow of Rev. E.G. Cutler, who was settled three years in Belfast, Me., went to Reading Penn. for his health & died there in 1843, away from his wife. Thus has the place of our room been purified by affliction and I learned the great lesson of Christ - "He came not to be ministered unto but to minister". My heart has often been filled with grief of late that I am so unlike him, & her, & all the good in this.

Mr. A.H. Abbotts School is just opposite us. Sam Otis has been there, but is now at home for a vacation of three weeks. No change in Vaughan that I can hear.

[Missing closure]

[A floor plan was drawn on the back of this letter. The handwriting could be that of Ella's.]

[Note 1. This letter was undated and could have been attached to another letter. It was filed between letters written 12/31/1860 and 1/2/1861, so I assume 1/1/1861. It is after the marriage of Ella and Rowland, which occurred on 8/14/1860. The letter is presumably written by Rowland, who is describing the rooms they are renting in Farmington and indicated in the attached floor plan. The Abbott school was in Farmington, which supports the location.]

1205 1/2/1861

From: C.H. Howard

To: My dear brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-1146

Bangor

Source: Bowdoin

Bangor Jan 2d 1860 [1861?] [See Note 1]

My dear brother

I have been expecting a letter from you for some time but conclude the best way to secure one speedily is to write again. How do West Point people regard the Secession? I noticed by the papers that three Cadets had gone home to South Carolina. I perceived also by the Register that two of them were found deficient last June & turned back. What do you think of Maj. Anderson? Don't you think he ought to be reinforced? Where was he stationed before going to Ft Moultrie? I believe I saw him while at W.P.

I thought of you often yesterday. Did not get so tired as on last New Years. Did you visit & "receive" this year? I was in hopes Lizzie would be well enough by this time.

Those books I sent to Guy & Grace I thought you would not consider very elegant, for New Year's gifts but I knew how pleased Guy seemed to be last year with his new Primer & thought he would be reminded how he began to read Jan 1st with me last year. Tell him & Grace that I saw a picture of 3 children upon the outside Grace's & upon the inside of Guy's. I was very sure one was Grace & one was Guy but what the other little boy's name was I couldn't tell. Perhaps they can send me word in your letter who the other little boy is. Guy will have to read Grace's book to her I suppose so that she may know about the pictures. I wonder if his old book got removed to the new house with you. Have you a cow now? I have often thought & with some pain of the expression upon Guy's Countenance when he saw the man come for his calf.

Dellie spent New Year's with me & has gone home today. He closed his school three weeks earlier than he anticipated by advice of the Com, whom he had called upon to expel a couple of young men from school. He felt very badly & dreaded going home to Leeds but we could devise no other course.

Week ago Sabbath I preached at Holden, three old discourses, having revised one of them. Dellie came for me Sat & they bro't me back Sat eve. Last Sabbath I heard the most eloquent & interesting Sermon I ever listened to I think, from Prof. Harris. It had a bearing on our National affairs. How much I wish you could have been there. He will repeat it as nearly as possible (for it was not a written discourse) Friday night next - the Fast day, in accord with a request from those who heard it. We begin to translate Hebrew today. The first 3 verses of Genesis. We also are to conjugate the 2d word - a Hebrew word which I think you learned in College. <We> are to decline all the nouns &c.

The gymnasium agrees with me. I am better than I have <been> since my school closed. Our recess comes the 2d week of Feb.

What is Johnny Weir doing? I've <a> great mind to write him a second <time>. He will be saved any annoyance of <the> kind by just forwarding a request <>.

My love to Lizzie & a New Year's kiss <to> Guy & for Grace & thro the latter a <> sweet one for the little boy of the dark hair. I hope you are all in the best of health.

You have probably heard of Fannie Otis' death. Mother gave me the news last night. How thankful we ought to be that she was prepared for the great change. How fortunate that Maria could see her sister once again in this world. It must be so hard to come hastening home a long distance in anxiety & dread to see a loved one upon the dying bed & find him lost & gone. Mother seemed deeply affected by Fannie's death. It brought up the many griefs of our family which have rent her heart. But she had at length, it seemed, obtained more than usual peace by trusting in her Saviour.

Rowland seems not in remarkably good Spirits probably owing to some measure to Ella's absence.

It snowed here part of the day yesterday. The latter part of the Eve. I was at an annual meeting of the Ladies'

Society in the Vestry - a kind of Social Celebration. It is a charitable association.

We often hear the wish that Gen. Scott was at the head of affair now. We should probably have Military work of it in such a case. I don't like the dallying policy of the President. I expect Lincoln is unquestionably a man of energy.

How do your meetings prosper? How is Mr. Grey? Wish you would give me the detail of one day at W.P.

My lesson calls me & I will close.

Affectionately,
C.H. Howard

[Note 1: Someone had written in the date 1861? in square brackets. I agree with this date. The question of secession was being discussed in the winter 1860/1861 and not a year earlier. Also Fannie Otis died 26 Dec 1860.]

1207 1/12/1861 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dear Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

OOH-1147

West Point N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

West Point N.Y. Jan 12 1861

Dear Mother,

You ought to have had a letter this week, but I have got so much interested in politics lately that I could hardly keep from spending half of my time over the news paper. However I have had other important concerns. I have now finished examining both of my Classes & commenced again the regular routine of duty. This week I have met the prayer meeting Cadets every evening, to observe this time as that set apart for the prayers of all Christians of every land for the revival of God's work among his children, & for the conversion of Sinners. Almost every one prays for reconciliation between the different sections of our Government country. I clip a piece from my paper containing an account of the taking of Mt Vernon Arsenal. You will recognize the name of Danville Leadbetter. I am sorry to see him among the enemies of his country.

I received Dellies letter in good time, & am sorry he did not succeed more to his satisfaction with his school. But he must'nt be discouraged. Unruly boys can cause a good deal of trouble.

I did not speak of little Fanny's death as I meant to, in my last letter. I intended to have sent you Maria's letter. I then thought it was William Merrick's & was'nt it? I sent it to Rowland or Chas and asked him to forward it to you. William has since written me & said that I must have received Maria's letter, containing an account of Fanny's death. I am glad she was so ready to go. Vaughan it seems is in Philadelphia. He must have improved in health since I saw him.

I hope father has quite recovered from his lame back. The rail road report looks well. Have they resumed paying their Coupons? I should'nt wonder if Uncle Ensign realized his twenty thousand dollars yet. Dellie seems to think the people at home are not very liberal towards Mr Chapin in the payment of his salary.

I am almost out of money & have not received an answer to my last accounts that I forwarded to the paymaster, but I think there is plenty of money in the treasury, & we shall get some soon.

I know Major Anderson very well. He was here on a Court Martial when Chas. was here & was on the commission sent here last summer on the course of study. He is a Christian & a fine gentleman. His trust is in God & God will direct him. His poor wife has suffered much with a spinal disease & only lately has she been able to walk about, but I have heard she was much better. Maj Anderson was stationed near Portland for some time at Fort Preble. Two of our Cadets (rather deficient ones, both I believe having been ones so pronounced by the Academic board) are in Fort Moultrie - Cadets Blocker & Reynolds. They left here some little time ago, & are now lieutenants in the S.C. Army. Not many officers have yet resigned. As a general thing they are strong for the Union. Some resign almost against their will, through apprehension I presume of civil war or of final disunion, when they would be aloof without a means of livelihood.

I hope you will continue well. The baby we shall call James Waite. I would rather not call him Rowland. I should prefer perpetuating Father's name in my grandchildren.

Love to all. Aff. Your Son
Otis

Lizzie is quite well & sends love. Grace is still a little deaf, but I think will soon be over it.

1208 1/13/1861

From: H. G. Townsend

To: Lieut O. Howard

OOH-1148

Barrack of U.S. Corps
Cadets;
West Point, N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

Barrack of U.S. Corps Cadets;
West Point, N.Y. Jan'y 13th 1861.

My Dear Sir;

In compliance with your request, I take great pleasure in giving you a brief account of my religious experience.

At the time of the great revival of the winter of 1855 & 1856, my father was pastor of a ch'h, in central New York. From my earliest youth I had been blessed with the religious instructions of a godly father, and a pious mother; I had been accustomed to hear the word faithfully preached every Sabbath, & had frequently seen both old & young gathered into the fold. For these, & other reasons, I was little affected, at first, by the work of the spirit; but before the revival had ceased, I felt that I had given myself to my Maker, & with an only brother & only sister, in company with about 50 others, took my stand before the world, as a christian, and first partook of the Sacrament by the hand of my father.

Till the late mighty revival I lived far from my heavenly Father. When the work referred to was in the height of its glory, I was so tempted, that my determination was almost made, to dissolve my connection with the ch'h. This critical period of my life ended by a fuller consecration of myself to the service of my Redeemer.

As a christian, I am, perhaps, more in the shade than in the sunlight; doubts of my sincerity often overwhelm me; but these doubts, I think, teach me to rely more truthfully on the right arm of Him who hath died for us, and lead me to resolve anew, that, with the help of God, I will lead the life of a christian man. Sometimes the light of God's countenance seems to shine upon me, and these happy seasons are oases in the desert of a sinful life.

Allow me to say, sir, that I feel that I have grown much grace under the influence of our little prayer-meeting, and your own counsels.

That God will abundantly bless you on earth, for your laborious efforts for the good of the Corps of Cadets; and that He will reward you a thousand-fold in Heaven, is the prayer and belief of,

Your Affectionate & Respectful Friend,
H. G. Townsend [Hubert G. Townsend, USMA Class of 1863]

To Lieut O. Howard

Rowland is settled so near her. I am glad you are at West P as I hope you will not be ordered South.

From your affectionate
Aunt Martha Jane [(Otis) Strickland]

1210 1/14/1861 *From:* O.A. Mack

To: Dear [OO] Howard

OOH-1149

Fort Randall N.T.

Source: Bowdoin

Fort Randall N.T.

Jan'y 14th 1861

Dear Howard:

Your letter of Dec. 10th came to hand on the 27th Ult. I have long been looking for a letter from you in response to the one I wrote you just before leaving Oswego. Upon my arrival at this post in June last I found a paper to my address containing your remarks on Military Subordination delivered before the Napoleon Club last winter. And I will add in this place, that these remarks have been read by several officers at this post, and, so far as I have heard, highly approved: Capt. Brown particularly commended them. But neither the letter, or paper, upon the religious history of West Point which you mention at having sent me, has been received.

I was greatly rejoiced to hear of your continued labors in Our Blessed Master's cause. I had, indeed, no doubts of your relinquishing the works of love so successfully prosecuted, while your physical strength permitted you to continue them. But I had heard that you were overtaking your strength, & would break down, if you did not favor yourself more. And this is the reason why I have not written to you since my arrival here. I did not wish to add to your mental burdens by obliging you to write to me. I felt that my letters could do you no good, and that although yours might be of great service to me, yet, under the circumstances, I had no right to impose the tax upon you.

I really hope you are not neglecting yourself in your desire to benefit others: - by preserving your health you prolong your period of usefulness. Then, too, you know you have a duty to discharge to your own family. I speak this in genuine kindness, and hope you will take it so, and think of yourself. I know from sad experience that ill health diminishes ones capacity for usefulness as well as for enjoyment.

In regard to my position at this place, I am compelled to confess that it is not one to command admiration or excite pity. I have not the moral courage to stand up boldly and proclaim the glad tidings of salvation to sinful men. Therefore I have signally failed to enlist any souls in the cause of Christ. Neither has my life been of such a character as to attract others to me, but, on the contrary, as I have discountenanced some things which others look upon as innocent, or, at least, harmless at this out-of-the-world place, I have estranged my friends from me, although I do not know that I have failed to command their respect as a general thing.

It is a difficult thing to begin a Christian work here. I do not think it is impossible. On the contrary, I think a man of the right stamp might make progress even here - doubtless there are many hearts that could be touched if properly approached. I think I might follow the lead of such a person as yourself and do some good for I doubt not were you here that you would soon find a way of breaking ground & planting <> true seed.

I do not by any means despair or despond. I shall not turn back. I am far from being a true christian, yet I have felt enough to convince me that all the honors & pleasures <of> this world are not worthy to be compared with the joys that <await> those who inherit the promises and even in this world the joys <of> the christian far outweigh in reality, all the boasted pleasures of the worldly. I am so steady and common place, that I am likened to a cart horse, but I suspect I <> <ferver. tedious moments than <> other officers here. I have certainly never enjoyed myself better <any> where else, nor have ever seen the time fly faster, had I more religious society & privileges, and a good <woman> in hand, I should be very willing to remain here another year, at least.

I have greatly improved in health, which in itself would have contented me to remain here, then I have had command of a splendid company and the charge of quite a little <favor>. All of which has been very pleasing to me, giving me occupation for body & mind, with freedom from troubles or fatigues. I have certainly a great reason to be thankful for the great mercies showered upon me, and I hope I am so. I pray for courage & strength to overcome my own weaknesses & shortcomings and labor henceforth in My Master's Vineyard. I have not the gift of expressing myself well in conversation, or the tack of interesting persons by my manners. These are great drawbacks to my success as a teacher of the Gospel to those who are cold & indifferent. I am chilled by coldness, and need sympathy to bring out the depths of my feelings, but God is able to make <even> of me an effectual instrument of salvation to others. Do pray for me, dear Howard, that I may conquer the

warring elements of sin, and finally stand forth in the glorious liberty of the Gospel of Christ.

I am very glad to hear of your domesticated happiness. I hope the little ones God has given you may grow up to honor you & their Heavenly Father. Mrs M joins me in the best wishes for your wife's health & happiness. She feels that you are both old acquaintances, although she has never seen either of you. I hope she will yet have the opportunity of meeting you both.

I regret to say that Mrs. M's health is not good this winter. She has been quite sick, and that, too, when our doctor was too drunk (for days) to attend to any-body. She is better now and we have a citizen Dr. employed in place of the Army, so we feel easier.

Secession is very popular here among the officers. I stand alone as a Black Republican, and that, too, tends to diminish my popularity & influence. But "I still live", and believing that the North is right, and that god will maintain the right, I am willing to suffer contumely, physical hardship and pecuniary embarrassment and, if it need be, to sacrifice life itself, before succumbing to the Slave Power, or relinquishing the Union.

Yours Sincerely,
O.A. Mack

1211 1/17/1861 *From:* Chas. H. Howard

To: My dear brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-1151

Bangor

Source: Bowdoin

Bangor Jan 17, 1861

My dear brother

Your letter gave me great pleasure. The wish often comes up that I could have been nearer your age so as to have known Grandfather & Grandmother & Aunt Fanny as you did & above all our own father. But it is best as it is. Mother spoke as tho' old wounds were opened afresh for a little while after hearing of Cousin Fanny's death. But the Christian's faith & hope came to her relief.

You were in the midst of Examination when you wrote. How did it pass off. How many were "found"?

But the prospect of your joining me here in Bangor which you opened up to my wondering thoughts was delightful for me to contemplate.

There is still so much uncertainty however that I have tried to refrain from all anticipation. I know you would enjoy this place much & it seems to me there could hardly be a better for the study of Theology & preparation for the ministry. I like the Church much - the Central of which Profs Harris & Shepard are pastors & have some thoughts of transferring my connection from Hallowell to this.

I talked with Mr & Mrs Stephens about rent. Gen. S. thought such a house as you would like would be \$100 per year. A neat convenient Cottage. Prices range from 100 to 300. Doct. Lincoln & family board at present but will probably keep house this Spring. He has two Children 4 & 6 years old. I tho't it could possibly do no harm to mention what I did to Mr. & Mrs. S. I told them there was still so much uncertainty about it that you preferred not to have it mentioned. They both take a great interest in you & your family & are very desirous to have you come. Mrs. S. mentioned a house belonging to Mr. Mills (I believe was the name) who married a sister (she tho't) of Capt Waite of Portland which is not far from here - very pleasant & convenient & has been let for \$100 to a Lawyer but might perhaps be engaged if spoken for in season.

Gen. S. knew of many cases of "leaves" for 6 months & over where the intention was to resign. I do not think it wrong to take such for you may determine before the end of that time, not to leave the Army or you might be directed by some unmistakable Providence to return to your present occupation. Did you mean 6 months from June or did you intend to apply for this leave in the summer during your furlough?

Gen. S. hoped you would visit Bangor in June or July & look about for yourself & then obtain the leave & begin next year with us.

I have often prayed Our Heavenly Father that he would direct you by His providence & His Spirit. I should delight <to> have you here, & Lizzie too. I [think] she would like the Bangor people & their Society, they seem so cordial & <kind> & simple in their manners,<and> how much I would like to have <your> darling children where I could see <them> often.

Rowland hasn't been <very> well of late but I hope is <convalescing> rapidly now from a letter from Ella night <before> last. Tell me whether Lieut <Hall> who is at Ft Sumpter is one I used <to> hear Miss Jennie speak of. Don't <you> wish you were stationed in S. Carolina. Maj. A. I see is put in a category with Washington & Garibaldi!! What is Johnny Weir doing now? What <thinks> he <of> secession. Wasn't Seward's speech good? Did you preach for Mr Grey <as expected>? And how is he now?

I felt like sitting down & writing <back> immediately on the receipt of your last but I delayed to make inquiries. What pleased me greatly was what you said of Lizzie's willingness to accede to the idea of coming <on> for if she was not desirous of <doing> so of course you would not <consent> to come. Do you visit the <soldier's> families as you used to? I think you were about our Master's work far more than I & was in its spirit far more while I was with you. Seems as tho' sometimes now that I would be more heartily with you <but> may be my heart deceives me for <it> is wicked & I find not always to be trusted some in regard to good desires.

I really hope Mr. Grey is not <so> run down in Constitution tho' I feared it might be so from his manner of life when I was there.

You speak of not feeling fit for the Pastor's duties now. I hope it is only that sense of unworthiness which constitutes the greatest fitness & will lead you to seek grace from the source you know so well.

This subject - a sense of unfitness for the ministry came up in our last class prayer-meeting & the remarks made & texts quoted were very interesting tho' brief. It came up in connection with the experience of him in whose room we met. We have the Relig. experience of one of the class related each night & they make our meetings the best I have ever attended.

Dellie writes that Leeds people are all absorbed in politics & that Religion is at a low ebb. My recess comes the 2d week in Feb Sat. before the 2d Mond. My love to Lizzie & Guy & Grace. I want to know what the other little one talks about. Can't Guy send me some word about his brother. Good night.

Your affectionate brother.
Chas. H. Howard

P.S. Will Lockett resign in case a war against secession & Alabama? [See Note 1]

We begin the 2nd Chap of Gen. tomorrow in Heb. Have also the Harmony of the Gospels now in P.M. A weekly exercise in Isaiah & one in Romans.

[Note 1. This is probably a reference to Samuel H. Lockett, USMA class of 1859, who was an Assistant Professor of Spanish Language in 1860 at West Point. He was from Alabama, and did resign from the U.S. Army on Feb 1, 1861, serving in the C.S.A. during the war.]

1212 1/20/1861 *From:* Rowland [B Howard] *To:* My dear Brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-1153 Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

Farmington Jan 20/61

My dear Brother

This Sab. like my last is spent in my room. I have had the Diphtheria, as I have expected since I came to F. But I had a light attack & am now quite convalescent & will be out of doors tomorrow or next day. Tho everybody warns me to be cautious lest I have a recurrence of the disease. Perhaps our Dr (Alexander) is as successful, as Mr Grey in his treatment. He did not apply the caustic to my throat & only made two applications of iodine with a brush. Ella says you must get Mr Grey's prescription before she "comes down". I hope she will not have it at all. She has had really a harder time in my sickness than I have myself I think, but has been unusually well.

I was taken a week ago Friday. I hoped to have had a "supply" today but the disarrangement of our mail on acct. of a heavy storm, prevented it, & Mr Goodenow has read Bushnells Sermons both Sabs. I wish that I had some one as convenient as Mr. Grey. It has been quite a "trial" to me to sit here & feel that my congregation were staying at home & scattering, my prayer meetings thinning out & the work of God apparently going back, so that it will take some time to get matters as well as before.

But God knows best what is for his glory. This is the 2d time I have been sick and my people must think they have a poor stick of a minister. One case of hopeful conversion has been like a ray of light amid the general gloom. Only two I hear were at the last Wednes. Eve. prayer meeting.

I think we will go down to Leeds & stay one night this week and I hope to write a Sermon & get around among the people Somewhat.

I have had a letter from Sarah wh. I answered, inquiring about Farmington as a place of residence. I wrote her what information I could. It seems to me that she cannot find a pleasanter place to live economically & bring up her children. In Summer, it is unsurpassed, but our winters, as you know, are very severe. She could live on her income (\$500.00) I think here. If, in the Providence of God, you have to separate from your family I hope they too would come <here>. We will be as remote from the War if it comes, as almost any place & yet our daily mail brings us into easy communication with the rest of the world.

I suppose you decided right about the baby's name. I should not have written as I did about mine, but at Mothers suggestion, and I suppose her desire was prompted by the wish to perpetuate the name of our Father. Ella & I have occasionally talks about "Jimmy". I can't get up any love for him like that for Guy & Grace, but I've no doubt he is just as lovely & we have only to get better acquainted to think well of each other. Ask Guy for me whether the baby coasts any with him? Tell the children that our S.S. Scholars recite verses & I wish they would come & help.

Dellie had some trouble in his School & is now at home helping the Leeds people settle the affairs of the country, if he has not left for Brunswick.

I take the Boston Daily Journal. A drifting snow storm deprived us of a mail three days this last week, but I couldn't see but that the country got along just as well as if I had moved about it every evening as usual!

I want to be President terribly - sometimes! I wouldn't invade any part of the South - would not "coerce". But if they stole forts & supplies &c I would drive the thieves out and shoot if I couldn't hang them. I would do with my own land, houses & fortifications, what I chose. At least put them in order & arm & equip them. If attacked I would defend them forever. Gods Law has its penalties. So does common law and why not national law? Whoever doubted it before now. Penalty is in the very idea of law - without it there is no law - all is liberty or license. When the laws of the Land are violated, let the transgressors feel that the penalty is as sure as the pain that follows putting the hand in the fire. If the Laws are wrong, repeal them - if the Constitution unjust, alter it - but if we are to leave our children anything but anarchy, let us, for Heavens sake, maintain the supremacy of law. The civil arm fails, then the military must do it. If Traitors are not hung, the Government will fall into

contempt & New York will <swarm> with them as much as So. Carolina. Property, Life & real liberty will be jeopardized, if not ruined. I have read with interest the appeal of Dr. Spring & others to their brother Clergymen at the South. It seems to me to lack definiteness. Dr. Palmers Sermon was a new evidence of the degrading power of Slavery on the pulpit of Christ. "When iniquity abounds the love of many waxes cold" & then they are left to speak & act richly.

Ella joins me with love to you all. Some time I get to thinking about Guy & Grace & can hardly restrain my impatience at not seeing them, particularly Guy, whom I love best of any little boy & for whom I pray that he may be good always.

Your aff. Brother
Rowland

P.S. O, we have a piece of news wh. indeed may have reached you thro another channel. Lizzie Patten is engaged! The lucky gentleman is a Mr Chas Rogers of Portland, son of an old friend of her fathers. Lizzie may know something about him. He is an invalid on acct. of a lame knee and so he fell in love with one some like himself. He belongs to a Unitarian family, is 35, has traveled, is wealthy & an only Son. She is but 17. He is a man of the world, has been rather gay & we have all been dreading the "offer", but I believe Mr & Mrs Patten have now withdrawn all opposition & the course of true love promises now to run smoothly. They seem to be passionately in love. He as fully as she. If he were only a Christian man, who now will have so much influence in forming her unformed character, it would seem better.

1214 1/30/1861 *From:* O.O. Howard

To: My dear Mother [Eliza
Gilmore]

OOH-1154

West Point N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

West Point N.Y.
Jan'y 30th 1861

My dear Mother,

I have a few minutes before breakfast this morning and will just write you a few lines to let you know that we are all well. I want to write Dellie & will as soon as I can get an opportunity. I hope you & he & father are quite well. I had news from Rowland that he had been laid up with that terrible Dyphtheria. I hope he is recovered completely before this time. We have changed Superintendents & then changed back again. Major Beauregard, I think intends to resign when he gets back to New Orleans, & Colonel Delafield will remain here. Floyd's orders are apt to be countermanded, fortunately for the good of the country.

Grace has recovered from her partial deafness. Guy has grown & is so stout you would hardly recognize him. Lizzie is partly well, gets very tired every day & has Jamie to disturb her at night, but she is in good flesh & has a good appetite. Mrs. Wing is still with us. I have had a letter from Aunt Martha Jane. She says all her family are well. She seems anxious about the state of the country. I am giving private lessons to Prof Mahan's son in Algebra & continue the study of Hebrew. The Methodists are having quite a revival at the Falls - many have been converted. I have been to some of their meetings.

Everything continues "in Status quo" here now. <Our> Artillery company, which is <held> in readiness for Washington has not left yet.

My love to all.

Aff. Your Son
O.O. Howard