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1233 4/2/1861

*From:* Rowland [B Howard]

*To:* Dear Brother Otis [OO  
Howard]

OOH-1172

Farmington

*Source:* Bowdoin

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Farmington Apr 2d 1861

Dear Brother Otis

I am getting very hungry for a letter from you & news from your dear family. I will begin by sending my most sincere love to my little nephew Guy. Tell him just as soon as he can read writing I shall write him letters. I often think of him & pray that God may help him to be a good boy & an energetic one too. Otis, you may smile, but I begin to look to the children, the boys particularly, to take my place in the world. My great hope is that in the years of my ministry, even if they be few, I may leave behind some humbler earnest worker in my place.

"Many little children have gone to Heaven to live" from among our dear people this winter. We have been drawn together & taught to love each other by these things. But the Sickness has now wholly left us. I have not heard of a new case for a fortnight.

Ella has been away at Bath now three weeks but I hope to see her again before the close of this week. I have been unusually well & preached the last three Sabs, with only half a days exchange with Bro. Morrill.

Give my best love to little Grace too. I can almost hear her saying "bad Uncle Rowland". Jamie I don't know, but if father & mother & brother & sister love him, why, I must! Has he shown any signs of will yet? Much love too to Sister Lizzie.

You don't know how much pleasure I anticipate from having you all with us a part of your furlough. We have engaged a nice large house with plenty of room & we will try to have enough to eat & plenty of Christian love & merry thoughts. Our house belongs to Dea. Cutler whom you met at Harpswell. He is just moving out to live with his aged father. It is on the hill, N.E. of the village, quite overlooking it & a long quarter of a mile from the Church. This last is the greatest objection, for our view in Summer will be splendid, but the hill is hard for Ella to climb & the winter seems colder up there. But Providence has supplied us with it at a reasonable rent & we hope to get settled by the 1st of May.

Capt. Patten will buy & send the heavy articles of furniture, the rest we must get as our means permit. Yesterday was Quarter Day. Our Treas. is very prompt, but after paying bills I believe I have but a little over \$30 to commence housekeeping with! But that will do nicely. Two of our brethren are grocers & will gladly supply us till the next Quarter comes around.

Our meetings are well attended on the Sab. but we still look in vain for any special interest, tho' there is evidently an improved feeling on the part of the Church. God is blessing me abundantly. O may my heart respond most gratefully & dutifully.

Our snow still remains to the depth of a foot. The crust these mornings makes beautiful walking. I must preach a Fast Day Sermon next week & I am dreading it exceedingly. We have a Union meeting on that day. The people will feel disappointed if my Sermon is exclusively religious, but I don't see how I can conscientiously make it otherwise.

Dellie got involved in an unfortunate brawl with the Freshmen at Coll. & is suspended. He is studying at Yarmouth. I went down to see the Faculty & I hope they will commute his punishment at the beginning of the Summer Term, i.e. if the ends of punishment, making him more careful & conscientious in future shall have been subserved.

I have not heard from our other friends for some time. Do you hear from Cousin Sarah? I wrote her last month in reply to her letter about coming to Farmington to live, & would like to hear from her again. If she is coming I think I can now secure her a snug little house, but how long I can do it I cannot tell.

I was so busy with the Faculty when in B. that I called on no one but Nettie. I regretted not having time to call at

Mr Sands, but Ella was in Topsham & I had to walk some distance to meet my engagements with the Coll. Officers.

Give my kindest regards to Mrs Wing. Ella would join me in all these kind wishes were she here. Do write soon.

Your aff Brother  
Rowland

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1234 4/2/1861      *From:* E Waite

*To:* Lieut O O Howard

OOH-1173                      Portland

*Source:* Bowdoin

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Portland Aprill 2d 1861

Lieut O O Howard  
Dear Sir

Your note with Coupons & Order was received Last Evening. I have to day collected the dividends as below

Say on Coupons	150.00	
Canal Stock	28.00	
Casco “	44.00	
International “	21.00	
		<hr/>
		\$243.

Cash Enclosed	100	
Deposited Subject to your Order	143	
		<hr/>
		\$243

Don't forget to make us a call on your way East. Should be glad to know at what time we may expect you.

With much love to your good Wife & Children

From Your Affectionate Uncle  
E Waite

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1235 4/10/1861     *From:* C.H. Howard

*To:* My dear Brother [OO  
Howard]

OOH-1174

Bangor

*Source:* Bowdoin

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Bangor Apr 10th 1861

My dear Brother

I have been hoping to get a letter from you for some time but have not had as much leisure for writing of late as usual.

I had a dissertation as also did all of my class to be read before Prof Harris last Monday. I had for my subject "Summary of Prof. Agassiz' argument". It is found in the 1st Vol, 1st Chap. of his Contributions to Nat. Hist. which I believe you have in the W.P. Library. A short time ago I had a dissertation before the Rhetorical Soc. but I made over an old "part". Soon I have an original Declamation before Prof. Shepard & the Students. You see I have considerable extra labor. We are reading some of Isaiah in Hebrew now. This is more difficult than what we have been reading which was much easier from the help of the Chrestomathy.

I have been thinking a great deal about West Point of late. I was gathering Epigaea at this Season a year ago & wandering over the hills about West Point. I wonder how it is with poor Mr. Gray. I've tho't that perhaps you were occupied in preaching for his people. I have felt much anxiety to hear about Mrs Gray & Miss Jeannie. Sometimes have thought of writing to them. Johnny has not written for some time. How much I would like to have him for a companion in some of my spring walks as I did last year. The ground is getting to be dry enough so that I have taken one stroll & intend to follow that with many more in quick succession.

I am living in great hopes that you will come to share these & all my pleasures with me. Shall I expect you in June? Dr. Lincoln has gone to keeping house in a very pleasant cottage on Cedar St. I took tea with him a few nights ago. I saw him at the prayer-meeting this evening. He took part in a very interesting & <> manner as he always does. He is very single in his purpose & spiritual in experience I think. I have seen Gen. Stevens several times of late. He & Mrs. S. Were greatly rejoiced at the news of your last letter both as to your coming & also the Revival. Hope you will tell me further about the work in the S. School. Gen. S. wanted me to invite you from him to attend the Hammond St. Church. They seem quite anxious to have you go there. A Mrs. Drummond & Mrs Woodhull whom I met at Dr Pond's last evening also expressed the same. A daughter of Mrs. Woodhull Mrs. Pickard said she has met you & I think Lizzie too at Auburn. She hopes to see you when you should come.

Is Mrs. Wing still with you? I would so much enjoy being there. I want to see the children very much. Tell Guy that I have requested his father to give him one of his best kisses for me & another of the same sort to Grace & if Guy think James likes to be kissed he may give him one too. I hear from Rowland often, but not from Dellie or Mother. As to the Churches, I prefer the Central but you will of course suit yourself. I shall certainly want you to hear some of the sermons I do if not all.

It is now time for bed. The ice left the river today. It has been delightfully pleasant for a week.

Affectionately Yrs  
C.H. Howard

P.S. You will find a cordial reception from either Church. I didn't know but you might desire to unite with one & that I would do the same. I notice that Capt. Gorgas has resigned. Dr. Stephens spoke of you today. What is to become of our Government?

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1236 4/11/1861    *From:* Charles [CH  
Howard]

*To:* My dear Brother [OO  
Howard]

OOH-1175

*Source:* Bowdoin

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Thursday Apr. 11th 1861 Fast-Day

My dear Brother

I have just returned from the funeral of Rev. Mr. Smith of Brewer Village. He died very suddenly last Sab. night. He has had a disease of the heart for some time but was about as he had been all Winter. He leaves a wife & two children. Several of my class accompanied me. We crossed the river in the ferry & walked down about 2 miles. Prof. Harris preached a very excellent discourse & gave a brief sketch of Mr. Smith's life. He has been settled there ever since the church was formed, 15 years. Prof. H. had a good deal to say in commendation of him. His home was originally in Litchfield. He became fitted for College by his own exertions & graduated at Bowdoin & then here at this Sem.

Rowland was to exchange with him a while ago but on acct of sickness Mr. S. failed to preach for him. He has been upon an agency for the Seminary in hopes it would be beneficial to his health as well as serve a benevolent purpose.

This forenoon I heard a somewhat political sermon from Rev. Mr. Gilman of the 1st Parish. Do you think many more officers will resign if there is a war? Dr Stevens expressed that opinion. I met him in the Gymnasium yesterday. He was a spectator, remarking that it was rather too much exertion for him to do anything there. He has that appearance. Many very heavy whiskers.

Where is Jack Wilson now? Do you expect Mr. Wright to take your place? Let me hear soon if but a word.

Yr. Affect bro.  
Charles

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1237 4/13/1861

*From:* John P. Roe

*To:* Lieut [OO] Howard

OOH-1176

Auburn Theo. Sem.  
Auburn  
Cayuga Co.  
N.Y.

U.S.A.  
West Point

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*Source:* Bowdoin

Auburn Theo. Sem. April 13 /61

Leut Howard U.S.A.  
West Point

My Friend

Expecting soon to see you face to face I will not write much at present. I trust that the acquaintance made under such pleasant circumstances may ripen into a firm friendship, esp. since we have aims & tastes so much in common. I believe, me in taking the pos. which I feel to be very trying for a young man & a mere student of Theol., I will lean much on your assistance & You shall have full credit both for past, & future. Your aid, counsel, & sympathy will be of great value to me & I look forward to some happy hours that we may be permitted to spend together.

You are doubtless aware (since it was owing more to your influence than my preaching) that I have received & accepted a call to the Ch. of the Falls for the Summer, & I look forward to four busy mos. I shall give myself up to the Ministry of the word & I hope & pray that the Great Head of the Ch. will bless my labors & continue His favors to that people & Ch.

It will be necessary for me to find a boarding place for the Summer & after enquiry & advice I think that, if found convenient by the family, I had better board with Mrs. Gray it being more convenient for me to the Ch. than elsewhere & also I understand that there was a stipulation in the sale of parsonage that either it should be used by a ministers family, or if unmarried he must board there. If otherwise used the property reverts to original holders.

I understand that the family would have no objections to such an arrangement & I shall endeavor to give them as little trouble as possible. There are reasons why I should like to board elsewhere but on the whole I am satisfied that this will be for the best.

I enclose with this a note to Mrs Gray which you will be so kind as to deliver to her at your convenience. Also to Mr Eberard who was delegate to Presbytery. I send along with this a Cat. of our Sem. Please remember me to <Coy> George Williams, & Lady also <Coy> Harry Hasbrouce & Esp. to your Lady.

Your friend  
John P. Roe  
Auburn  
Cayuga Co.  
N.Y.

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1238 4/15/1861 *From:* S.P. Lee

*To:* My dear Cousin [OO  
Howard]

OOH-1177

Washington Hotell  
New York

*Source:* Bowdoin

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New York April 15th 1861

My dear Cousin

I arrived here last Tuesday. Have been intending to write you every day but put it off from time to time thinking I should run up and spend a night with you. Sarah was quite sick when I left. She had a Boy born the 20th March and had a hard time of it but was out of danger when I left. She thinks of going to Farmington to live, but I think I shall write her to remain in Nassau another year on account of the trouble here as we can not tell where this Civil War will end and she has many friends there that would like to have her stay and it would be better for the children's health to stop another year there.

Every thing here is in great excitement on account of the news of Major Anderson's surrender. What do you think of it. I feel that if there is going to be a war I would like to have a hand in it if I could get in the Navy and I should think officers would now be wanted.

Please write me of our Eastern friends. Are they all well. I have been away so long that I have not heard any news of them for some months.

Remember me to Lizzie and the children. Tell Miss Jeannie Gray that I have just received her letter written two months ago. If I go out to Nassau again I should be happy to have her father go with me but I do not think I shall go in the Brig again.

With love I remain  
Your affectionate cousin  
S.P. Lee

Write me for a week to the Washington Hotell N.Y. as I have lost several letters that have been sent to Mr Ensas office.

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1239 4/17/1861 *From:* Anson P. Morrill

*To:* Dr Sir [OO Howard]

OOH-1178

Readfield

*Source:* Bowdoin

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Readfield Apr 17 1861

Dr Sir

Your favor is rec'd. It is now impossible to tell what may come out of the present state things. I think however that no <retreating> from this state to any amount will be done. Volunteers will be had by asking. If any chance occurs to which you allude I will be glad to aid you.

Very truly  
Anson P. Morrill



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1240 4/20/1861

*From:* O.O. Howard  
1st Lt. Ordnance  
A.A.P. Math's  
West Point N.Y.

*To:* S. B. Holabird  
1st Lt. 1st Infantry

OOH-1179

*Source:* Bowdoin

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West Point N.Y.  
Apr. 20 1861

Sir,

I have the honor to request a leave from 7 A.M. Monday till  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 9 P.M. of the same day.

Respectfully submitted  
O.O. Howard  
1st Lt. Ordnance  
A.A.P. Math's [Acting Assistant Professor of Mathematics]

To:  
S. B. Holabird [Samuel B. Holabird, Adjutant of the Military Staff]  
1st Lt. 1st Infantry

Approved. The sections will be heard by myself, or some other officer of the Dept.  
A. E. Church [Prof Albert E. Church, L.L.D.]  
Prof Math

[On reverse side of page]  
West Point N.Y.  
Apr 20 1861  
OO Howard  
1st Lt. Ord'ce

Leave  
Approved  
A.H.B. [Col. Alexander H Bowman, Superintendent USMA and Commandant of the Post]  
Col & Sup

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1241 4/21/1861     *From:* Eliza Gilmore

*To:* Lieut O O Howard

OOH-1180

Leeds

*Source:* Bowdoin

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Leeds April 21, 1861

Otis, my dear son,

After saying to you that your father and I are in our usual health, I ask, how is it with you? It is now 3 weeks, since you wrote. It seems a long time since, because I have been in daily expectation of one from you. Your last letter gave me the blessed intelligence that the gospel was not preached in vain in all places. When ever I meet with christians in conversation there seems to be a healthy state of feeling towards their Saviour, but no further, we do not progress, apparently in the great work of salvation. Mr Chapin seems always to be a teacher, and affectionate Christian and has a ready helper in his companion. Our subscription is filling out better than here-to-fore. Nearly all who have subscribed have added to their sum of last year. All these things are favorable and we have reason to thank God for them. We have a comfortable place of worship and a minister of Christ to preach to us. To day is Mr Holts last day on the ridge. There will be a thin congregation, I think, as no one goes from here, neither from the other house, and Capt Turner's family will not probably attend. Those who do attend, must walk as we are having our worst traveling now. The frost is coming out of the ground, which makes it dangerous traveling about here.

We have had sickness in the neighbourhood for a number of months. The most of the sick ones are gaining. Jason Bates walked down here Friday. He has been suffering severely from a scrofula abscess for a month past, had it lanced a number of times. His looks bespeaks him soon for the grave. Betsey Bates is recovering from a severe sickness. She walks about the house. Capt Turner has got his clothes on again though feeble and Mrs Turner goes from one room to the other but is very feeble. Joshua's wife has been here two weeks with them. She came to Leeds in the public conveyance, which makes her quite an invalid. Charles Lane's wife has been sick six or eight weeks with an inflammation of the lungs. I understand she is recovering. John Turners wife has been confined to her room all winter. Beside all these almost every family has been afflicted with hooping cough, so that much of the conversation when we meet is about the sick. I have had a Rheumatic attack in March, but am nearly recovered from it. I walked to Capt Turner's last evening and back.

Thomas Bubier and wife are established here for the season, to do our work. They are hired. They have lost their infant of five months old with the hooping cough. The little creature was buried the 2 day of April, which delayed his engagement to your father a week. Abby his wife has been here four days. She seems enfeebled by long confinement to her sick babe, but seems quite reasonable in her grief. She thinks she shall be able to do my work through the Summer.

The snow is nearly gone, except patches of drifts over the fields. Your father sowed some early Peas yesterday, but we do not call it early spring. The weather is cold. The farmers are repairing their fences and packing their wood into their wood sheds. Thomas has drawn some dressing from the barn, on to the corn land, and I begin to look over the garden, to see what the cold of winter has left us to cultivate this year.

All these views of spring remind me that the time is approaching when we shall welcome you and Lizzie and Guy, and Grace, and the sweet little Jamie to our humble but quiet home. I am often reminded of Guy as I go about. His rake and hoe are here. I intend to have a blade put on his hoe soon as the traveling will do and I can ride up to Mr Lamb's shop.

I received a letter from sister Martha J Strickland a few days since. It was a pleasant happy letter and I prized it very highly, because I do not deserve it. I have not written her since last Sept, her birth day. She said it was just four years since she was here. Then you were in Florida and Mrs Waite, Lizzie, and Guy were inmates of our family. Many changes since that time.

Rowland and Ella have not written me for a long time. I wrote them last. I shall write and enquire into their case soon. I suppose they are about going to housekeeping, as he wrote me in his last letter he had obtained a house. Charles has not written for a long time but a Newspaper from him a few days since told me he was still in the land of the living. I got a letter from Dellie a few days since. He says he is doing well in his studies, but never had so little time to write as at this time. He got behind his class by having a felon on his thumb and is

now making up.

Your father has awakened from a long sleep in his chair, and asks if I am writing to Otis, and to ask him what he thinks of the war. I never expected to live to see such a state of affairs as this. I think it calls upon every Christian to seek to know the most pure spiritual manner the Sovereign God can be approached and to supplicate his divine assistance in our Country's behalf. I have thought of you much since the state of our country has looked so warlike, whether it would effect your calculations or not. The last evening's papers seemed dreadful to me. Their account of Lieut Jones' manner of leaving Harper's Ferry, has come very near my feelings, as it is but a few years since you were filling a similar station, and then the treatment the Massachusetts regiments received at Baltimore and the Philadelphia troops. It shocked me to think there were those so near us, who could desire Jefferson Davis to march to the Capital of the United States.

I see by the last Kenebec Journal that there will be a change at the Arsenal at Augusta as Maj Baldwin has resigned his command at that place to accept an office in the state of Virginia offered him by the governor in the Military department, to take charge of the Ordinance, of that state. Now that Arsenal is open for a new commander. If you were to remain in the army another year, or years, it would seem desirable to me, for you to have that station. But I do not wish to choose for you. My desire is to be submissive to the will of our Heavenly master.

I do not hear much from Hallowel since Fanny's death. I heard through Rowland that Ellen did not take her little girls to Philadelphia with her.

Your father went to Augusta in March, alone, but I was prostrated with an attack of Rheumatism. We have had a very severe winter which has kept me very close at home. Martha J writes, all her family are well and ever have been since they have lived at Richmond. She mentions writing to you and Lizzie this present winter and your answering her. She says the state of the country makes her heart sick to think of it, but not so with your Mother. I feel drawn in prayer to the great Ruler of all things to ask Him not to leave us to ourselves, but to take us into his especial care, direct us in all things whatsoever we should do, and I hope all will be for his Glory and our best good.

Give my love to Lizzie. Tell her I think of her much in her care of love in her little family, and hope her strength will hold out to bring up her dear one. I have thought of late that she was sick or some other ones of your family and you did not wish me to know it, because of the anxiety it would give me. Remember me with much love to Guy. Tell him Johnny was in here to day, talking in his funny way, but he has improved some in speaking his words. Give my love to Grace. I suppose she has grown perceptably since I saw her. Grandmother looks forward with some degree of pleasure to the time when we shall all meet again in this house. Kiss the little one for me. I hope he remains healthy. Remember my regards to Mrs Wing if she is with you, and Susan, much love to her.

Your affectionate Mother  
Eliza Gilmore

Lieut O O Howard

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1243 4/25/1861      *From:* Chas. C. Townsend,      *To:* Lieut O. O. Howard  
Missionary  
OOH-1182      “Orphan’s House of  
*Source:* Bowdoin      Industry”  
Iowa City, Iowa,

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“Orphans’ Home of Industry”  
Iowa City, Iowa, April 25th 1861

Lieut O. O. Howard

My Dear Sir,

Your very welcome Letter dated March 9th was duly, and thankfully, received, - and the enclosed contribution of \$15.00 came safely to hand, - and, in a very acceptable time, and I owe you an apology for this seeming neglect - and real delay. It is not that I have been unmindful of you and of those associated with you in the timely offering, or of the donation itself, but since its reception, I have had so much to occupy my time, in the daily routine of “the Home of Industry”, as to give me little leisure for writing Letters, - and, therefore, I have before me a file of unanswered Letters, aid-bearing, similar to your own, which I have not been able to acknowledge. You will, I am convinced, congratulate me on the reception of more Letters from the friends of our cause than I am able to answer. My appeal for relief has been most promptly and liberally responded to, and, by God’s blessing, we have passed the long winter very comfortably, and paid up most of the small debts contracted by my managers in my absence, last summer. Since my sickness began, I have found good homes for some 25 boys and girls in this State, and demands are made for children almost daily.

My health is not yet quite restored, or I should go again, at once, to the East for more money and children. I would thank you to accept, for yourself, and express to the Cadets whose names you have favored me with, my heartfelt gratitude for your sympathy and christian kindness and theirs. It is my earnest prayer that “God, ever our own God, would give you His blessing”, and, return your generous offerings, in spiritual blessings, in good measure, and running over, into your own bosoms.

I still remember, with pleasure, the hour of prayer spent with you, and, as I suppose some, if not all of the Cadets who have joined their offerings to yours, in this token of sympathy in our cause, and it gives additional value to the contribution to believe that it came from that circle of prayer. May the blessing of God rest upon them all. The Christian Patriot and soldier will need unwavering confidence in God in such perilous times as these. Possibly this long delayed acknowledgment of your gifts may come too late to find any or all of you at West Point. The Call of the Country is loud and imperative. You may all have gone to the defense of its outraged flag, or, if not, you will doubtless go, and the trial must come - not merely of your steel and skill - but, of your faith in God. Those who have daily passed the evening hour with you in reading the word of God and prayer, will not forget you, and the holy lessons you have taught them, on the field of battle. How precious are the thoughts of God in the time of danger! I would thank you to say to each of the donors, if you have the opportunity, that our prayers and our gratitude will follow them wherever they go.

Many an earnest prayer has been offered that the God of peace, would dispose the hearts North and South to pacific measures, and make them to dwell together in harmony and unity; but, as the war is already begun, we must pray that the blessing of the Lord of Hosts will rest upon those whose cause is righteous.

“Thrice is he armed, who has his quarrel just.”

The patriotic feeling runs high in our vicinity. The Eastern papers are in great demand. The Enlistment goes rapidly on, and already our county has enrolled three times the number demanded. One of our young men has enlisted in his country’s service, and I hope he will be as faithful in that service in the field, as he has been in ours at the Home. I would gladly furnish more; and, if possible, go myself to the defence of my country, but, but my duties are here, and many; and we propose to aid, as far as we can from our farm the families of the volunteers.

We can also offer our prayers for the success of our flag, and defend our own homes, when the war is brought to our doors. We are now very busy in farming. I have bought another farm, and, with a view to feed more of the hungry next winter, we are farming on a larger scale, and hope next fall to have enough and to spare.

I have recently received a Letter and contribution from Miss Biddle, living near Philadelphia who visited you last fall. She speaks in terms of heartfelt gratitude of the kind attention she received from yourself and Mrs Howard, and, as she called upon you at my suggestion, you will please accept my thanks for the same.

Col. Dellafield sent me \$25. through Bp. Lee, and I addressed my acknowledgment to Col. D. Please remember me, with much gratitude, to Mrs Howard, and the Cadets you name, and may your hearts and minds be kept in the knowledge and love of God.

I am, gratefully & Truly Yours,  
Chas. C. Townsend,  
Missionary,

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1242 4/25/1861     *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* My dear Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

OOH-1181

West Point N.Y.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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West Point N.Y.  
Apr. 25 1861

My dear Mother,

I received your letter today & think you ought to have received one from me before you sent this.

We have been sick, that is Grace & Guy & the baby. Grace & Guy were quite sick. This, with the sickness of Mr Carroll's children & the death of his little boy, has caused us much anxiety & watchings. Mr Carroll's mother came on to the funeral and we gave her a part of our house while she staid. Dr Hammond was exceedingly kind & attentive during the illness of the children. They had catarrh & fever. They are now all well and we must thank God for his divine goodness & sparing mercy. I realize that He doeth all things well.

I am glad to hear that all is well with you. I have been thinking how father was off for money - if the rail-road paid him anything now. I am really sorry to hear that our neighbors are so unwell. I didn't know before that Capt. & Mrs Turner had been sick. You must give them my love & sympathy. I can think how sore must be the trial to Mrs Bubier in the loss of her little one. God alone can bind up broken hearts. Happy is the afflicted soul that already is united to him in faith & love.

Father inquires about the war; it is with me war! war! I read of it, I think of it, I pray about it & dream of war. I don't seem to be much excited. When in New York Monday, I felt abashed for my lukewarmness, when talking with an enthusiastic clerk who was soon to start for the defense of his country. I am in principle strong for the government. I do not feel that I can leave the Army now, while there is as great a call for my services & when our own people would suspect me if I tendered my resignation. I doubt if my resignation would be accepted now. So many officers have been taken from here, that Prof. Church says I shall soon have to take a whole class instead of two sections as I now have. I shall probably be kept here. Lt. Warren, the 1st Assistant in Mathematics, has been requested to become Lieutenant Colonel of a Volunteer Regiment. Cadet [Adelbert] Ames of the 1st Class has been asked to become Lt. Colonel of one of the Regiments from Maine. The Officers continue the same rank in the regular Army, while serving in a high place in the Militia if the Government allows them to do so. In this way regiments of new men get disciplined officers to instruct them.

I hear from private authority that Jeff. Davis is at Richmond Va. & has been ever since the Virginia vote of secession. As soon as Maryland declares herself free from the Union, Washington will be attacked. Our troops at Washington are surrounded by enemies, and there are still plenty of lukewarm friends in the District of Columbia. The defense will be vigorous & probably Baltimore & other obstructions will be cleared away, but I think between enemies & friends our beloved Capital will be destroyed.

Judge & Mrs Carroll have returned to Washington from here. We shall soon get reliable news from them. The papers cannot be relied on - they have got the war fever themselves.

Dr Hammond & Lieut Kelton were ordered to Washington yesterday, & left this morning. Large numbers of Southern cadets have gone - very few of them now remain. Our Cadets of the 1st & 2nd Classes have applied for duty to Washington. They will probably be graduated immediately if needed.

Perry was here night before last. He wants to go into the navy. I gave him letters to Judge [William Thomas] Carroll, Ck. Of Supreme Court of U. States, & to Col [Henry Knox] Craig, Colonel of Ordnance, & Cadet [William D] Fuller recommended him to his father one of the Auditors of the Treasury. He probably left N. York for Washington today. Perry is now very strong for the Union. He says he has hoisted the old flag too often to disown it now.

The flower of New York, the young men of every class rich & poor have gone to fight for their country. The enthusiasm has been beyond description. When I was in N. York Monday, the streets were waving with flags: the eaves, the windows, the doors, the carriages, the horses & the people had flags or badges of Union. Susan

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1244 4/27/1861     *From:* O.O. Howard

*To:* My dear brother [RB  
Howard]

OOH-1183

West Point, N.Y.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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West Point, N.Y.  
Apr 27th 1861

My dear brother

I received your kind letter in answer to mine. My plan was to go to Bangor & unite with one of the churches there with my wife & not to preach without a license. But the state of the country is such that I feel hindered from consummating my purpose at present. If I should tender my resignation I doubt if it would be accepted now. And if it should be, the general impression would be that I favored secession. I do not feel that it is a proper time to change my profession for the cause of Christ and I am willing to do all I can to strengthen the hands of the Government.

Perry Lee is seeking a place in the navy. I gave him letters to prominent men in Washington. I presume he is there now tendering his services.

Isn't the union of Northern men wonderful. The line is so distinctly drawn now that I can see nothing but war & ultimate division. Still God can do all things. Over a hundred cadets I believe have left. Many of our officers have been asked to join volunteer troops in the capacity of Cols., Lt. Cols. & Majors. Cadet Ames has been chosen Lt. Col. of a Maine Regiment. If they get permission from Washington they will accept these places & still retain their rank in the regular Army.

Our children have all been sick with Catarrh & fever. Grace & Guy were quite sick in succession. So was Katy Carroll & the little boy. The latter died. He was a beautiful boy - nothing could exceed his beauty as I saw him in his little coffin, with his cheek tinged & the indescribable peace appearing in every feature. Carroll prayed, but I fear he has not yet given his heart to God.

Give much love to our dear Sister. We are all well. The state of the country is awful, but we think Washington is safe, though surrounded by enemies to the government. Let us commit everything into the hands of God while we do what we can.

Affectionately yours  
O.O. Howard

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1245 4/27/1861 *From:* J. F. Hammond

*To:* My Dear Sir [OO Howard]

OOH-1184

Washington D.C.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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Washington D.C. 27th April 1861

My Dear Sir,

We arrived in New York about 9 o'clock a.m. Thursday, and ascertaining that the Q. M. Depot there knew nothing whatever of the route and means of getting to this place, we left at 2 o'clock for Philadelphia. We learned from Gen'l Patterson, in command there, that a train would leave the next morning at 11.30 for Perryville, communicating with a steam transport for Annapolis. We accordingly made ourselves comfortable until that hour.

Leaving at that time we struck the first sentinels about a mile east of Elkton. They belonged to Sherman's battery, which we found encamped at Elkton, in command of Ransom - Hill having resigned, and Sherman being about. We reached Perryville at 3 P.M. and having had our orders vised by a Col. Comdg there, were shipped, bag and baggage, on board of an iron steam transport for Annapolis. A filthier craft I never saw, and one half of the deck was occupied by a number of horses, and the balance by an armed and loaded guard of twenty five men and a second Lieut, dressed in as many different uniforms, and representing almost as many nationalities.

We arrived at Annapolis at 9 P.M. The Naval School was occupied by troops, the Midshipmen having all dispersed the day before, and the Professors were awaiting instructions from the Govt. We could not judge of the number of troops there, because it was at night. There were certainly hundreds, and may have been thousands. I found Schuyler Hamilton there, a private of the "7th Regt" - detained by Gen'l Butler who was in command there. The Gen'l gave us papers for Washington, and at 9 o'clock this morning we left on the cars for the junction toward this City.

There were one or two companies placed on the cars as a guard. The road to the junction was lined with soldiers. At the junction we took on perhaps a thousand soldiers, and arrived here about 5 o'clock P.M. The R.R. from Annapolis to Washington is in charge of the Govt. Lieut. Smead commanded the train from the junction to Washington. We have not paid transportation since we left Perryville.

I am told that there are several thousand troops here, and that they are constantly arriving. The first object is to protect the City, and what then, no one knows. The City is perfectly quiet, the people are under no apprehensions, and comparatively few soldiers are seen in the streets.

Mr. Lincoln will issue a proclamation next Monday, blockading the ports of Virginia and North Carolina. Virginia has not only seceded but has joined the Southern Confederacy, and placed every thing in the hands of Jeff. Davis. North Carolina has as yet done nothing but siezed two Forts &c. in her territory. Maryland not yet out.

I would write you more in detail but am so sleepy that I can scarcely keep awake. Will write again in a day or two. My kindest regards to all, please.

Yours Sincerely,  
J. F. Hammond