
1396 9/16/1861

From: Joseph R. Hall

To: Brig. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-1353

State of Maine
Office of Secretary of
State
Augusta

Washington D.C.

[Letterhead]

State of Maine
Office of Secretary of State
Augusta

Sept 16, 1861

Sir -

Mr. H. W. Morton of this city desires a place in the US Army, either in the Quarter Master or Commissary Departments and I have much pleasure in assuring you that he is a man whose honesty and integrity is unquestioned here, and whose business capacity and habits well qualify him for the position he desires.

Any assistance you can render him will be duly appreciated and will gratify his numerous friends here and elsewhere.

I have the honor to be sir
Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Joseph R. Hall

Brig. Gen. O.O. Howard
Washington D.C.

1397 9/16/1861

From: Lewis D. Moore
Dep Secy of State,
State of Maine
Office of Secretary of
State
Augusta

To: Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-1354

Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[016]
[Letterhead]
State of Maine
Office of Secretary of State
Augusta

Sept 16, 1861

Gen. O.O. Howard
Washington D.C.

Dr Sir -

Permit me to introduce to your favorable consideration H. W. Morton Esq of this city, who is desirous of obtaining a situation in connection with the Army. Any aid you may be pleased to render him in his desired object, will be duly appreciated by myself, and I have no doubt by his many friends in this vicinity.

I am Very Respectfully
Your Ob Servant
Lewis D. Moore
Dep Secy of State

1398 9/16/1861 *From:* Cyrus Yanny

To: Dear Gen. [O.O. Howard]

OOH-1355

Calais

Source: Bowdoin

[346]

Calais Sept 16th 1861

Dear Gen.

In consequence of an incidental remark, in a letter from my Son to his sister, I think it my duty to ask you if the Conv. officers have been faithfully, thoroughly and impartially examined as to their courage and fitness for the station they occupy?

I infer, from the remark alluded to, that there is a general dissatisfaction among the members of Co G. 3d reg. Maine Voll in regard to their Capt.; neither just or unjust I have no means of judging. I deem it of the highest importance that the officers should possess the entire confidence of their men; and it more better that one man should be sacrificed, than that a whole Co. should be rendered inefficient through a want of confidence in its Commander. I trust you will make such enquiries as will satisfy yourself as to the merit or demerits of the case and initiate such proceedings as the best interests of our Country demand. I should be sorry to have my son brought into any personal difficulty, this, of course you will avoid. I will add, I do not believe him capable of casting an unjust aspersion upon any one.

Your's Patriotically
Cyrus Yanny

1399 9/17/1861

From: [Senator] Lot M
Morrill

To: Brig. Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-1356

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[347]

Augusta Sept 17 '61

Dear General

Allow me to introduce the bearer Mr Morton of this city, who visits Washington in the hope of obtaining employment.

He is a man of intelligence, capacity & of much business experience. I shall be glad if you can in any way advance his interest.

Very Truly Yours
[Senator] Lot M Morrill

Brig. Genl Howard

[Written on back]
Lot M. Morrill
Sept. 17 '61

1400 9/18/1861 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dearest Wife [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1357

Head Qrs 3d Me Vols

Source: Bowdoin

[348]

Head Qrs 3d Me Vols

Sept 18 1861

My dearest Wife

I am going to write you just a few words & enclose my self for your consideration.

Major Staples report is quite satisfactory. He says you look just as you did when he saw you at New York. I asked him if you were very thin & growing old & he positively declared no. I have gained 15 lbs since I left West Point. I notice by the papers that John Hillhouse has been appointed on my staff; but he had written me before that Gen'l Martindale had the claim on him. Major says Guy talks of volunteering. I don't hear much of Gracie. I expect she plays every day & is as happy as her little heart will let her be & that she does not cease to love papa. But Jamie I believe don't know me.

Much love to Mother & Father - am very sorry that father is deaf. If Chas. don't get a commission I must have him with me if he comes back to the wars. I miss him. Colonel Staples is not well. He is billious, had too many new things, since he has been gone. I was at judge Carrolls day before yesterday. He wants to be remembered; also Fitzhugh who is now apt. adjt Gen'l to Gen Bird. Mrs Carroll & the young ladies have gone to West Point.

Mrs Sampson has been quite attentive to me & my wants. A Wrentham lady Miss Bradley wanted a lock of my hair. I sent word that she must get your sanction.

Give love to Charlie. I shall write him soon.

There has been another rebellion in the 4th Maine. One whole company & more. The trouble is their Company officers don't know anything.

God bless you & the little ones

Very lovingly

Otis

P.S. My officers got these pictures out of me - it is not altogether my vanity

1401 9/19/1861 *From:* Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: Dear Sister Lizzie
[Howard]

OOH-1358

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

[349]

Farmington Sept. 19. 1861

Dear Sister Lizzie

I find on reviewing my figures that I made a mistake of \$11.00 in my own favor by making a blunder in subtracting. I believe the Acct. is now correct. If it is not perfectly satisfactory to you, do please say so frankly. I find the incidental expenses of the journey were larger than I anticipated - these I have not generally included in the acct.

You have given me opportunity of enjoying one of the most pleasant & profitable journeys of my life & I hope what I have learned may not be entirely useless to those whom I can benefit. I thank you from my heart for your great kindness, the more so since my own circumstances would have quite put it out of my power to go.

You overpaid me \$2.03 which I enclose herewith.

Our family & housekeeping never appeared so poorly as during this little flying visit, but the causes were apparent and you know it was no lack of disposition on our part. You are always welcome to come & go & remain here with your family when you will. Ella & I have often spoken of this - & nothing would make us happier than to serve you & the children as we can. As Ella's health returns & when Abby comes we can make our home much more regular & agreeable than it now is. Never since we have been housekeeping have we omitted family prayer till this morning & it will not occur again.

I will write you just as soon as anything shall transpire in regard to a house. I send Guys papers. I want him to come up - Monday with Mr Goff & spend a day with me if his mother can spare him. Please write, if he can come.

Yr. Aff. Bro:
Rowland

1402 9/19/1861 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: My dearest Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-1359

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

[350]

Farmington, Me. Sept, 19, 1861.

My dearest Otis

I am writing before breakfast and am at Rowland's as you see by date. Col Gilmore, Mother, myself and Jamie came yesterday, and go down this morning in the train. No house here as yet that I am sure of getting. I expect to go with Rowland and look at some this morning. Shall see Sarah before I go.

I regret to hear that you are not to have Mr Hillhouse. Where is Tom Wright? (Genial Tom) as you say. I hope you can get a good staff. Has'nt Charlie learned so that he could be of service to you? I know I would like him to be with you.

My goods are at Leeds Junction at present. I found Charlie here, and was glad. When I go to any new place I feel a little lonely and that is why I was glad. Ella's is a nice baby, but smaller than Guy or Jamie was. He looks very well but not strong.

Charlie has finished writing so I must. May God protect you .

Your own Lizzie.

I paid Rowland this morning. I can pay your clothing bill at Augusta.

1403 9/19/1861 *From:* C.H. Howard

To: Dear Brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-1360

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

[349]

Farmington Sept. 19, 1861

Dear Brother

Lizzie, father & mother came up last night but failed to bring your letters, one to me and one to Lizzie. I have been waiting anxiously for answers to some questions but Lizzie remembered and told me your replies for the most part.

I expect to go to Augusta tomorrow. Have not received a word of instruction since I came home. Don't know whether any office has been established or whether my expenses will be paid and that of the transportation of recruits to Augusta.

I have only two signers to my paper but there are a good many in this vicinity whom I could enlist had I the proper papers & authority. We had a meeting & I addressed the people an hour - was then followed by Rowland with a very eloquent speech of about an hour, & others.

I wish I knew what to do about Maj. Sewall. I question his fitness for the Adj. Gen'l'cy.

Do you want me on your staff?

We could not positively decide whether you could appoint your aid & Inspector Gen'l. You said that Adj. Gen'l said you could have one - say Hillhouse - and no other but must take such as the department may send you. I take it that in this latter he only referred to Qr. Master & Commissary. Is that right? You intimated something of this kind. Cant you have Owen if he wants to come?

Lizzie inquired where Tom Wright is. Maj. Sewall would like for some one to apply to the Gov. for him but if you want me it will perhaps be asking all we ought to for him to grant me a commission. There were 21 applicants for the Chaplaincy of the 8th Regt. so I have no hopes of such a situation. If you want me for aid I wish you would send some letter to that effect to the Gov. either by mail or by me.

Capt Woodman would be completely ignorant & so I think not fit for Adj. Gen'l. He tho't Strickland would not make a very good Col. Lacks dignity to command respect.

I must close. Do write immediately.

I think I can recruit as well as any one but it goes slowly.

Yr. Affec. Bro.
C.H. Howard

[Written on back]
Sept. 19, 1861

1404 9/20/1861 *From:* Hannah Carver

To: Col. [OO] Howard

OOH-1361

North Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[351]

North Leeds

Sept. 20th / 61

Col. Howard, Sir

You must excuse my freedom in writing to you. I wish you to write to me how Jason Carver is, whether he is so that you think he can be brought home or not. If so one of his brothers will come and get him and see him home.

I wish you to answer this as soon as you receive it so that we may know whether to come after him or not.

Direct to North Leeds to his mother.

Hannah Carver

Yours with much respect

1405 9/20/1861

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Lizzie [Howard]

OOH-1362

Hd Qrs 3d Regt
Camp Fessenden

Source: Bowdoin

[352]

Hd Qrs 3d Regt
Camp Fessenden
Sept 20, 1861

My dearest Lizzie

I will just drop you a line to say that I am well, have moved into Gen Sedgewicks Quarters to wait for orders. I expected them yesterday but they did not come, & New Brigade is to be sent over here & I suspect I may have it. It will be pushed forward between Gen Kearny's & Gen Slocum's. Charlie will explain.

Very nearly on our old ground only a little retired. I have had a good rest & feel much refreshed. Maj. Fred D. Sewall of Bath has been commissioned as Adjutant Gen'l. Gen. Martindale was not disposed to give up Hillhouse unless Hillhouse particularly desired it. I went day before yesterday to the Adjutant Gen'l's office and put forward Sewall & yesterday his appointment was announced. Tell every body that the 3d Maine is the most respectable & best behaved regiment of all & that men had better go therein without bounty than in many others with.

I feel as though I am a great Sinner Lizzie, during these days of comparative leisure. I seem to have lost the power of reflecting before each action in its inception, and sometimes it seems like duty to read in my testament. My mind wanders away upon business.

How little sympathy I have had with men whose minds are loaded with care for earthly things. You must pray for me in these days when I am abounded against so many hard substances. God bless you & the children every day & mother. How is she? Col Staples said she looked cheerful and that he had a very pleasant visit. I should have written her this letter, but as I had so little time before the mail boy left I thought would not like to send her a careless letter as I had not written for some time. Given the duty I will try to write her.

Love to Father & Charlie. I do hope the children & you are well. I have'nt had a letter for two days from any body.

Good bye - Pray for me.

Yr. Aff. Husband
O.O. Howard

No attack & not much prospect of a battle – O.O.H.

1406 9/21/1861 *From:* C.H. Howard

To: Dear Brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-1363

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[353]

Augusta Sept. 21, 1861

Dear Brother

I find that you have appointed Maj. Sewall as Adj. Gen'l. I don't know but that he may do well. I should like to see some stronger man at the place. At first the papers had it Inspector Gen'l which suited me quite well.

Now is there no such place as Inspector Gen'l. If there is why might not I have it unless you have some one else in mind?

Drew spoke of seeing a letter from you with regard to my being Chaplain. There is such a scramble for the place that I dislike to have anything to do with it - not being very old & not having been ordained they would surely complain of favoritism.

I am going to be in Leeds Monday & Tuesday & you may direct all my letters there till week after next when I expect to be at Farmington. I have now got regular enlisting papers but cannot promise bounty. They are not able to pay any more bounty & I must retract what I have already done on this account.

I don't believe you will care much to have that unmanageable Cavalry. Goddard is to be Col. - consist of 970 men.

If Lothrop could be an officer in Co. K. - (He was discharged on acct of a wound at Bull Run & is well & has enlisted a Co but too late for the 9th) he would come back & we could have several of his men. I have telegraphed to Staples.

Lizzie returned to Leeds - Thurs morning. The baby - I mean Jamie - was very good natured & let me hold him a good deal.

My health is very good. Lt. Stearns - the Missouri man recently from the 3d Maine - says he thinks more of you than of any other man in Va.

Hight will pay some of my expenses. He has now some money. I hope the Lord will grant you in your selections & will bring you into a place where you may do good service to our Cause & Country.

Your affectionate Brother
C.H. Howard

P.S.

The Gov. seems to think you can have men commissioned at Washington if you appoint them on your staff. He has no authority to commission but will do so if the authority is granted him as it was in the case of Quarter Masters of Regts & Adjutants notwithstanding - there was no such authority from the Gen'l order.

I see no way of getting a commission in any of the Regts raising if engaged in this duty for the 3d Maine or in any way if I am to leave them. They may not agree to it.

1407 9/22/1861 *From:* Rowland [RB
Howard]
Farmington

To: Sister Lizzie [Howard]

OOH-1364

Source: Bowdoin

[354]
Farmington Sept. 22/61

Dear Sister Lizzie

Ella is going to Bath Wednesday & I will come as far as Leeds with her returning here the same night.

I hope Guy will come up Monday. I will go to the Depot for him. If he is put particularly in the care of Mr. Goff & Guy understands it it will be just as well as if you or I were with him.

Our meetings have not been as full as usual today on acct. of muddy traveling I suppose.

Charles went Friday morning at 6 o'clock in the Stage. We have no later news from Otis except Fred Sewalls appointment. I think the President must have commissioned him. I do hope Charles will have a place - if no better fitted man can be found. He & Otis both need the pay. A Recruit came to inquire for C. today. He goes to Augusta tomorrow to enlist.

I am pretty tired after my three Services. With love to all.

Good Night
Rowland

1408 9/22/1861 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: Otis [OO Howard]

OOH-1365

Leeds Maine

Source: Bowdoin

[355]

Leeds Maine Sept 22 / 1861

My dearest Otis

I have received letters from you so often since I have been here that I cannot be otherwise than happy. Grace has'nt been quite well, but I think her change of dirt the cause.

I have just finished reading two Sunday School papers that Rowland sent the children yesterday. Now they are playing, Guy with chairs, Grace with "bunnie". Jamie is with Isabella. Col Gilmore and Mother gone to church. Charlie is in Augusta, Cynthia and I are going to Monmouth to take him home from there to-morrow I expect. I shall be sorry if he returns with a commission if that cuts him off from being with you. I may go with him to Livermore (to muster) Tuesday next, but I hardly think I shall. I don't want to go at present.

I am making you some shirts; dressing case if finished and furnished I wish you had it now. I received a long pleasant letter from Mrs Sampson last week. I wish you would remember me to her very kindly, and tell her I would like to answer her immediately if only to thank her for her suggestions. I have 6 handkerchiefs all hemmed for you.

What did you send me so much money for. I had one hundred and fifty about on deposit in Casco bank. Uncle Edward sent me, at my request, fifty dollars of that. I have had no more since the seventy five from Mr Bacon before I left West Point two thirds of that settled my bills. I had the remainder and, twenty six of the forty dollars interest on your Insurance Co. in New York. To Rowland I gave \$26 and finished paying him when at Farmington out of the fifty from Uncle. I bought a piece of cloth for your shirts and for myself. I have two pairs of half thick drawers for you and you must tell me that you will put them on as soon as you get them unless you are already wearing thicker ones. Will you? I don't know how much I have in my purse. I have ten dollars or more of New Jersey money I will send you by Charlie. It is no use to me here and is discounted also. Expenses.

I gave Rowland some money before he went to Washington and told him I did'nt want him to ask you for any. I was talking with him an evening before about everything - Mr Bacon and Mr Merrick having some of your money and your owning in an Insurance Co in the City &c - and he remarked that he was going to talk with you about these things, and it grieved me very much, but I don't think he saw it or found it out. As if it was important for him to know your property and where it was situated. It seemed too much, dearest, like going to take your deposition (if it is the word) and like a last final visit to you. And I didn't want him even to mention the subject to you. I feared it might trouble you, and I don't want you troubled with anything you don't have to know, that is just the long and short of it. You have enough to do anyway. I would'nt have told you this much if you had not asked me.

I willingly paid Rowland's expenses, and including to Washington and back, because he took Guy to visit you, and that is very gratifying to me. I left West Point more willingly on that account. Everything included, it cost me about fifty dollars. Interest on the Bonds will be due the first of next month. I have no particular want of money here as I have no way to spend it.

Mother wishes me to stay here until Charlie returns to Va. Then I will get to house-keeping, if Rowland gets me a house before that time. My goods are in a car at Leeds Junction. I may have the house that Rev John S. C. Abbott occupied when we were at Farmington. Mr Dana Goff has been living there, but has recently purchased a house. I would board in Farmington if I cant find a pleasant place for the winter.

I don't think the children miss Susan because they like Isabella so very much, and she is very kind to them.

The papers say you have Major F. D. Sewall for Asst. Adj. Gen. but they say most anything and I don't know as it is so.

Guy frequently breaks out with something to tell me that he saw. I shall soon learn every thing he saw. I am

getting it little by little as it is suggested to him. Grace wanted to look at the paper and see where the kiss was, when you asked if she would be too large to kiss papa. She has just given me three kisses for papa. I called to Guy to know if he had anything to send to papa. He came toward me saying, 'I will send all the kisses I can get' and began giving them to me to transfer to you.

He is very well now, but had intermittent fever nearly a week after he fell into the spring. It was the spring under the birch tree, and he could not walk to the house for want of strength. He got out and then sent Johnnie for someone, while he sat on the grass and I think took cold in that way.

I believe I have answered all questions in your next to the last letter, and now to the last. I am so glad you have had Photographs taken. I have wanted it for a long time. I like the side view best, if I have a choice, the other is very good, but the whiskers need trimming with the scissors or were you thinking of and trying to resemble our friend you came near having with you? That is the first think I thought of when you mentioned him first. I am sorry you lost him.

I am very much obliged to Maj Staples for giving a good report of us. Charlie writes in detail. I think he must have said I was thin or perhaps Rowland. I am very happy to learn that you have gained so much and your picture looks pretty well. Is your hair more gray? Miss B. can have a lock of it, for Mrs Sampson says that she was informed, by the same, that a light always disturbed her after she had gone to bed.

When I opened my paper I found your certificate of stock of four shares in the "Insurance Co". I thought I had'nt it when I wrote to Mr Bacon.

Mother has returned from Church says Ella and baby are going to Bath next Wednesday. Rowland comes as far as here, then Uncle Ensign takes her the rest of the way. She will remain till some time in Oct. when Abby, Mrs Patten's seamstress, (you saw her at the time of the wedding) will return and spend the winter with Ella. It is hard work to know how to get along with the first baby (between you and I). Mother is resting on the lounge behind me, thinks Miss Bradley is making hair flowers to want your grey hair. I shall send you a pair of pants by Charlie, and I was going to pay your tailor's bill at Augusta. Charlie is getting pants there.

There is one thing I would like to caution you. I don't want you to try to help Perry, for I do not think it would do any good. I told Charlie he'd better keep the coat that looked so much like you, dearest. I changed the buttons for him. He is wearing it now recruiting.

I shall do the best I can with what I have to live on, but if you have any money to lend or not wish to use I rather you would send it to me for the children, unless you can find a better use for it than I can think of.

Evening. Half past seven o'clock.

I do wonder, dearest where you are just now. At a prayer meeting in your tent perhaps and may be not in that vicinity, but you are under God's protecting care wherever you are.

I feel a little restless, lonely, and don't know what to do with my self to-night. Your photograph is before me stuck in one side of the mirror which I see when I look up, but it cant speak to me. Children all asleep and they are pretty well. I ought to be and am thankful that they are. I have a great many blessings, and am naughty to sit and think and wish for something I cannot have.

Cynthia sends me word to be ready at nine o'clock in the morning to start for Monmouth, therefore I must finish my letter to-night, all but sealing for Charlie may wish to add a word before I mail it at Monmouth. Come to think of it he wont have time before the cars leave, he will only have time to get out before they will be gone. I don't feel sad now, but I was a while ago, dearest, just a little. I seem to have written all my trials and troubles in this letter. I was going to have my tooth out at Lewiston as I told you but I forgot it as it did'nt ache, and it has not ached since but it must come out. Laura has her married cousin with her from Philada. They were here one day to see me. Do not forget to write often will you, when you can. Give my kind regards and good wishes to Perry.

Your own Lizzie

Mother sends love and to Perry

1411 9/25/1861

From: I. Washburn Jr

To: Gen'l [OO] Howard

OOH-1366

State of Maine
Executive Department
Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[307]

[Letterhead]

State of Maine
Executive Department
Augusta,

Sept 25, 1861

Gen'l Howard,
Dear Sir,

On receiving your telegram this morning, I did not hesitate to appoint Capt. Heath Lt Colonel of the 5th Regt.

I did not doubt the qualifications of Capt Heath, but as Col. Jackson & his Adj & Q. Master were taken from without the Regt, I felt a very strong inclination to appoint the other officers from the Regt. But when I learnt from you that a majority of the officers of the 5th favored Capt Heath, I was glad to appoint him.

It pains me to say that since the appointment, I have rec'd a letter from Mr Leonard containing some most unhandsome & ungenerous insinuations which I had trusted he was incapable of making.

Very truly yours,
I. Washburn Jr

1409 9/24/1861 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My darling wife [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1367

Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[357]

Washington D.C.

Sept 24 1861

My darling wife

It is really too bad that have been off duty so long & have not been able to see you & the children. Could I have known it I think I should have tried to give you a secret visit (in cognito).

I have been in town for a few days stopping with Mr Farwell of Farmington Me. I hope you saw his wife. He is a nice gentleman & good friend. I have become quite attached to him. Judge Carroll is quite ill again with the gout. <He> [has] terrible & prolonged <> sufferings. Mrs Carroll & the young ladies were all at West Point.

How does Guy do this morning. Papa is writing before breakfast thinks Guy must have had his breakfast before this time. Papa has'nt got any regiment now. Miss Bradley & Miss Graves are in his tent & Mrs Sampson has got a new one close by Capt Sampson. How is that little rabbit & how is the Spring? Does Guy take off his clothes now when he goes in bathing? How is Gracie this morning, fresh & bright as a lark? I expect she would like to kiss papa & tell him what she is doing every day. And Jamie. I expect he continues to mind his own business & has become quite attached to Isabella.

I think Charles had better have a commission in the Cavalry, get a good horse & fixings & be my aid. I shall try for it. I don't want him to strike higher than Lieut, for then I cannot get him.

You cant think how much in demand the graduates of West Point are now? People are begging for them for Adjutants & for Colonelcys of Regiments. "Bob Williams" is going to take the Massachusetts <> Cavalry & Lieut Gregg <> R Island. The Government refuses to let any more [in] so that we cannot get Wesley Owen's for ours as we hoped. All my classmates who left the service are back in it again. Tom <Ruger> has a regiment. O'Connor also, both of Wisconsin. I meet any number of officers at the Hotel, daily arriving. We have now more than three times as much artillery as we had before & as much more Cavalry. I find Warren Woodman a good Captain & the 8th a fine regiment but Col Strickland is no commander. He will have to be examined before the Army board I am sure. His General told him he would give him four days to prepare [- a] <rather> short time.

[Give] much love to mother & father [and] to the children. I went to Church Sunday. I am trying to draw nigh my Saviour. Am praying for him to keep me.

God bless you all.

Otis

[Note. The bottom corner of each page in the letter was torn and missing. The brackets are my attempt to fill in the missing information. Angle brackets <> indicate a word is not completely there, whereas [] indicates the word is missing.]

1410 9/24/1861 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: Otis [OO Howard]

OOH-1368

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[356]

Leeds Sept 24, 1861

My dearest Otis,

I have a package to send you by Mr Sewall, and will write a short note to accompany it. I want to make you a flannel wrapper (or dressing gown) to sleep in if you suffer with the cold, and to wear if you should be sick this winter, which I do hope will not be the case. But I cannot get the materials here.

Mother and Charlie have gone to Livermore she to visit Mrs Perley and he to "muster". I hope he will get some recruits there but may not because one company of the 8th Maine was formed there.

I wish you could see Cousin William Henry Timberlake. He is a Lieut. in that Regt. If I get to house-keeping I want his wife to make me a long visit this winter. I shall hear from Grand-mother when Mother returns.

I mailed a very long letter to you yesterday. I wrote in that a little of everything, and found fault with everything and everybody. I will say as Grace does to me "I'll try not trouble you again."

We are all very fond of the rabbit, but little Jamie will dance him by his ears once in a while. Jamie is a real go ahead boy, not like Guy at his age. He creeps in all sorts of mischief. When we have no fire in the dining-room he is getting into the ashes, and when there is, his head is generally on a line with the andirons (nearly) at the same time resting on his hands watching it most intently.

Wednesday Sept 25.

I will add a few more lines to my note while Charlie is writing to send you a letter this morning. Mother and he returned quite late last evening, did not see Grand-mother. She is at Uncle Stephen Morse's. I don't think I ever told you that both of their daughters died a few months ago. It may be it was before you went away. I send you a dressing-case made in great haste. I know you must have lost the other one. Charlie brought me a letter from you last evening, dated Sept 20. Letters are always most welcome as you must know.

Guy and Grace are out playing. I am writing in the dining-room and as Jamie is asleep I do not dare to leave him alone long for fear he will creep off the bed, so I will write no more at present.

With much love from
your own wife
Lizzie

1412 9/25/1861 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dearest Lizzie
[Howard]

OOH-1369

Bellevue Va. Hd Qrs
8th Brigade

Source: Bowdoin

[358]

Bellevue Va. Hd Qrs 8th
Brigade Sept 25th 1861

My dearest Lizzie

I received your letter, the first you wrote me after your return from Farmington, a good long letter, and a welcome one. I have been waiting two or three days for assignment to duty. I cant help feeling restless & a little homesick because I have nothing in the way of duty to do; but doubtless before this reaches you everything will be settled.

I see one of my old enemies around in Washington, and I perceive a difference in demeanor towards me on the part of McClellan's staff. I went to his head quarters yesterday morning and asked to see him & was told he was at breakfast. I went into the anteroom to wait & staid till he came from breakfast & took his place in another room separated from mine by folding doors. I saw thro. a side door others who came after me go in & come out, who had no more title than I; so I arose & came off passing one of his aides & bidding him good morning as I came out. I came back to Camp last night. Today McClellan had a grand review here of three Brigades. I attended it and feel a little as though I am in disgrace at Head Quarters. The same old enemy was there & I could'nt help feeling as though he had been at work, but maybe not.

I came back to my room & remembered that I got up this morning & dressed & went directly to morning prayers in Camp & had omitted to read & pray by myself. I read & tried to pray & lay down on my Camp bedstead to read a book. This evening I visited Lt Beaumonts wife a young bride that he has just brought here. He told me today aside, she was just such a one as I would like, for she was a real christian and he wanted me to come & see her. To night I got your letter & went to camp to give your messages to Mrs Sampson & listen to singing & playing on a guitar at her husband's tent of a Lieutenant & finally a general sing, by a number gathered there. All these things have cheered me up.

You thought I sent you quite a little money at the beginning of your letter, but warned me at the close not to lend but to send it to you for the children. Rowland once said in a former letter, he wished I would act less from impulse & more from principles. He had reference to my giving to a man whose poor mother had been robbed of her <purse>. I feel, darling, a "little bit" sensitive. I will surely send you all I can. You had special reference to Perry. I have refused always to lend him money & shall because I believe that is best for him & me.

Do not be in the least degree unhappy over this reference to one single remark in your letter. I don't think I give from impulse simply in any case. I hope not. God has turned back into my hand always more than has gone out of it, at least more of real substance. You must give & lend & teach the little ones to do so as they grow up if God should see fit to separate us. Would you not love to tell them that their father was generous?

Then my precious wife let us look directly to God who giveth to us so abundantly, that we are apt to forget Him while looking at his gifts. I hesitate about sending you this letter, for fear of touching your loving heart with pain, but it is perhaps better that I should open my own. I find that my Heavenly Father doeth all things well.

I was a little disappointed to return to my regiment, now I see clearly how much better for it & for me. I am impatient at waiting for assignment & get a little offended at Slights. It is all needed to bring me to Christ. I, at least can be no general without Him, with Him no enemy can stand before me. This I know & were I not a Christian I should tremble at the responsibility of my position, but thanks be to Him who has taken me in his hands & can mould me like the Clay. He can raise me up or cast me down. I heard of one young man who used to lead in the prayer meeting at West Point on his way north after the battle of Bull's run. He was using grossly profane language & shewed great egotism. A gentleman a Mr Howe of Boston took him down a little by telling him he would modify his opinions somewhat when he got older & had had more experience & told a little of his own experience on the plains of Greece many years ago. These young men are apt to fall into sin. Bad association, ambition & drink destroy them.

I have seen Thompson (James) of the Artillery. He had a chill the last I heard from him. I see Robert of the Engineers frequently. He is unchanged. Benjamin I met yesterday. He always seems glad to see me. Lts. Stoughton, Vinton, Torbert, Ruger & O'Connor are Colonel's of Regiments.

I called to see Casey's father yesterday & told him I knew his son quite well. He was glad to see me. I saw Shunk at the Arsenal. He inquired about you I believe. He seems quite natural, full of his peculiar fun. I visited the 8th Regiment, saw Warren, reviewed their parade & addressed their officers. They are more than dissatisfied with their Colonel Strickland. Their Lieut Colonel & their Quartermaster. Their Major Rice is begging to be restored. He was left behind at New York for drunkenness. I got his solemn pledge not to drink & have transmitted it to his Brig. Gen'l Viele with a request that he have a new trial. Perhaps Strickland & son may be added soon to the list of my enemies, for I have done my best to get them to appear before the Examining board just in Session at Washington.

Poor Perry has had a dreadful throat, is getting a little better by dint of "Spunging". He sent Sarah \$20 dollars last month after his debts were paid. He has given or lent me his Sea Glass & it is a fine one. I lost my reconnoitering glass at B.R. because I did not have it with me as I ought.

Perry stands ready as my friend in the third Maine against all opposers whatsoever. I think he will send money to Sarah every month. I think I can get Charles just as well if he is a Lieutenant as now. Sewall is the best man I could think of for Adjutant after losing Hillhouse. I saw him (Hillhouse) yesterday just as gentlemanly, a little thinner, a little paler. He seemed sorry indeed that he could'nt go with me. Col Berry now reverts to old times & wants me back to have this Brigade. I shall write Charles tomorrow.

I am glad to hear Mother is well. Many kisses to the children. Hope Gracie is quite well as also my darling wife. Mrs Platt was over at the review today & spoke of you & if you were not coming to Washington. Officers are bringing their wives to Washington, but I think they had better not quite yet. Give the babies good warm clothes Lizzie, & they will thrive. Good night and may God bless you & keep you.

Aff Yr husband
Otis

Much love to mother & Father.

If Father wants to know what we are doing all time a building <stands> to run into if whipped & to run out of to stop <them>.

1413 9/25/1861

From: F.M. De Cover

To: Brig Gen'l O.O. Howard

OOH-1370

Head Quarters
Army of the Potomac
Washington

Source: Bowdoin

[359]

Head Quarters
Army of the Potomac
Washington Sept 25th 1861

Brig Gen'l O.O. Howard
Comdg &c.
General

I learn from Captain Kingsbury, that it is your wish to get a smart active man to take command of a Regiment of Cavalry from Maine. I should like to know immediately if this regiment is now organized, and in the field, or if it is yet to be organized.

I have a friend now serving the country who would take the Colonelcy of said regiment, and who is in every way competent for such Command. He has seen active service and was in the engagement at Bulls run, and proved himself worthy of his command as all of his officers of the Brooklyn 14th will testify.

I am Sir, Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
F.M. De Cover
Head Quarters
Army of the Potomac

1414 9/25/1861 *From:* C.H. Howard

To: My dear brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-1371

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[360]

Leeds Sept 25 1861

My dear brother

Mother & I were at muster at Breton's Mills yesterday. She went to visit Mrs. Perley, I to enlist recruits. I got 3 names - nice young men from our town. I do wish they could always have good company - Dexter Howard, Walter Boothby, Ruggles Keay - nephew of Mrs. Francis Lothrop - then at night after we got home Henry Fabyan. The parents & friends of some of them except the last were willing.

I expected to get more - Could have got some drunken men but preferred not to enlist men in that state. One of them I would have taken could I have found the Dr to give him first a thorough examination.

Saw Perley is at home & Eliza. Peleg has an abscess near his spine which probably will never be well. He has suffered much.

I had a letter from Maj. Sewall & he will start for Washington tomorrow. Ella is going down today & Rowland will come to stop till next train. I go to Skowhegan tonight - to spend 3 days there. I would like to keep tomorrow as a Fast. Mention to John that I am going to Sk. Will he stay with you?

I was glad to know certainly that my commission if I have any must come from the Gov. of Maine. He seemed to think it might be obtained in some other way.

Wish I knew now whether if I got commissioned in a Company and were appointed on your staff the vacancy so occurring could be filled by another officer - elected & commissioned as usual.

Please answer - would a real vacancy occur by such an appointment on your staff?

Of course I would like to be a Major of Cavalry & be on your staff but tell me whether it would not be contrary to that article of Regulations about staff appointments which says an officer of a Mounted Corps shall not be separated from his Regt except on duty connected with his particular assn.

I am sorry to trouble you so much about my wants but not knowing what else to do I keep writing.

I suppose the Cavalry appts come from Washington but probably at the recommendation of Gov. Washburn. Goddard is the Col. A rough old fellow - very energetic & enthusiastic - swearing, teasing man.

If you think it possible for me to have it, wish you would write the Gov. if you had as lief do it as not that you think me competent for a Major of Cavalry & desire that I should have it or if that is impracticable & the vacancy can be filled please write him to that effect & ask that I be commissioned in some Company of Infantry.

When I heard there were 25 or 30 ministers striving like so many politicians for the Chaplaincies, I felt sure that was not the place for me unless I should receive the election on acct of what has already been said to the Gov. & some of his council. This will not be so if you want me I desire you should signify it to the proper authorities & I will do all that proper modesty will allow to secure the position.

It would be grand to belong to the Cavalry & thus get well equipped before I see you with horse &c.

If you have one to spare please send home one of those orders for the organization of Volunteers.

Joshua Turner & wife came up yesterday. Capt. Hesseltine reported that he was to get recruits - <you say> on furlough. Is he to interfere with me? I have just got the authority to enlist regularly. I will expect an immediate answer - and that Cavalry will be all organized in 3 weeks - so I will have to be ready - on hand. Col. Rich

Turner says is called a good officer. The 9th left yesterday morning. They were mustered Sunday & had no Services.

I was at Hallowell. Vaughan is very low & but in a good state of mind. O that true & faithful prayers may ascend on the morrow. [Their cousin, Benjamin Vaughan Otis died on September 23, 1861.]

Affectionately Yr. Br.
C.H. Howard

I am by no means positive that Capt. Hesseltine is not a good man.

Other ways failing I tho't I might he put in Lt. in Capt Heath's Company if he is made Lt. Col. of the 5th.

Next week I expect to be at Farmington, where you may direct your next letter if you please.

Wm Turner will be very grateful. He wants an officer in Cavalry.

1415 9/26/1861 *From:* Wm. C. Barnard

To: Brig. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-1372

Cadet U.S.M.A.
West Point N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

[361]
West Point N.Y.
Sep. 26th 1861

Sir,

You will doubtless be surprised at receiving a communication from me at the present time.

I will briefly state that my object in addressing you is to ascertain if you can give me a position on your staff, that of Aid is the one I most desire. I need not offer any recommendations as to character &c, for you are acquainted with my antecedents, and must know that I shall always do my duty conscientiously and to the best of my ability.

I have sent in my resignation and am determined to go into active service. If you can give me a position, will you inform me as soon as possible? I am afraid that I am too late, for it is more than probable that you have chosen your staff before this, but still I hope that you can do something for me.

I am very respectfully
your Obt. Servt.
Wm. C. Barnard
Cadet U.S.M.A. [Class of 1862, but did not graduate.]

Brig. Gen. O.O. Howard
Depart. of the Potomac

1416 9/29/1861 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dearest Lizzie
[Howard]

OOH-1373

Mr Carroll's
Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[362]

Mr Carroll's
Washington D.C.
Sept. 29 1861

My dearest Lizzie

I have taken my seat to write you a few lines. I came over to the city yesterday morning and not having been assigned yet to active duty, I thought I would stop till evening & perhaps over the Sabbath. I did however start to go back last night but found the bridge was broken & came back. This morning I went to hear Dr Sampson a baptist clergyman. I did not enjoy my Sabbath very well. I am going this evening to a presbyterian meeting with Mrs Hardy.

This afternoon I rode out with Judge Carroll to the plain beyond the Capitol where the 8th & 9th Me Regiments are encamped. I saw Warren Woodman & found him quite well. I saw also Col Rich of the 9th & liked his looks & the appearance of his camp very much.

Mrs Carroll & the young ladies have not yet returned home yet.

This was a summer time that Guy had, than I had thought. Did he plunge in head foremost? I hope Grace is entirely recovered & that you are quite well.

I made an official application yesterday for active duty. Gen Jameson & I are neither of us assigned to duty. I think the reason is that older Army officers than I are daily getting promoted & McClellan likes to give them a place. We have 8 Regiments in the field and I think should be placed on duty. The pickets of the enemy are being withdrawn, & our troops are advancing gradually. I think the enemy is trying to cross into Maryland below. I don't think he will succeed. If he does what will become of us? Why. We must do what we can to defend Washington, but if he can cross a river three miles wide he can advance.

It is too dark to see. Much love to the children, mother & all.

Aff. Yr.
Otis

1417 9/29/1861 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: My dearest Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-1374

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[364]

Leeds Sept. 29, 1861

My dearest Otis

I have received your letter written in Washington while at the house of Mr Farwell. I hav'nt been in Farmington long enough to see any of the people yet and therefore have not met his wife. Sarah has got nicely fixed at house-keeping. I told Rowland I would board a while if he could find me a pleasant boarding place. He told me when here (the day Ella went to Bath) that I could board with a Mrs Norton - have three rooms at seven dollars per week. I am thinking of doing so. There is really no house vacant now that I would like, quite a number of parts of houses but that would'nt do. Soon, or by spring I may be able to get just such a house as I would like.

I don't want to go to Rowland to stay at all, because they have just commenced, and he finds it costs more to live than he thought of, and he thinks of little things now that he wont in a few years. I rather be independent so long as I can, and be no burden to anyone. Mother says I am welcome to stay here as long as I will, but I think it is best to go and come with the children than to remain any great length of time. Then she will have rest from their noise when we are away. They do not seem to trouble her, and she is not irritable or nervous, but she is not able to be working for us all the time. Mother does'nt do much house-work. Abby does a great deal more than she ought to just now, and Isabella helps whenever there is anything to be done. She does nearly all the washing.

Col Gilmore has grown old fast the last year, but he does'nt have to work hard now. Thomas is an excellent man. He has quite an inclination to enlist.

I wrote to Uncle Edward today to collect the coupons and Interest on Bank stock and as I did not need it, as I had received money from you, I thought better invest it if I could in the Bank stock or if there was enough three hundred or more in the Government loan if it was best. He will write me about it.

Tuesday evening. This letter was left on my table all day yesterday without my adding one word to it. I wish I could write a great deal to you dearest, to-night. I received another letter from you to-day, came last night. I do hope and pray that no one will be permitted to do you any injury whatever. It would be on false grounds I know. I am glad you wrote me very frankly your own heart. I did not feel sad at the reference to what I said in a former letter. I know you do not act from impulse. We (two or three) had a conversation about Perry after I commenced my letter before I finished it and probably the effect of the conversation caused me to write as I did. I will not say more about it because I can trust in your judgment.

It seems to me that Rowland is ambitious and I regret it. Charlie went away last week. I think he will be here next Saturday. Two letters came to him to-night, one from you. We will send them to him to-morrow. He went to Scowhegan, then to other places and is now probably in Farmington. You must write definitely when you write to Charlie on military matters. I know from what you had written, that your staff was to be organized just as you have now written it, but he was not quite sure. I wish Charlie was with you now. I should not think any lady with children would like to go to Washington yet. I would have no wish to be there now that I would not be very happy to be with you. It now seems to me that if God brings you back to us I never can be otherwise than most cheerful and happy. This separation has been a good school for me.

Col. Gilmore expects to go to Portland to-morrow to attend a Rail Road meeting (Bond holders) the rail road is finished to Bath.

Mother had been in my room. I read most of my letter to her leaving out what I thought might worry her. I am very anxious to get your next letter. May God direct you in all things, take care of you and be with you always.

Your own
Lizzie

1418 9/30/1861

From: EH [Edwin Harris]

To: [OO Howard]

Darling

OOH-1375

New York

Source: Bowdoin

[365]

New York

Sept 30th 1861

My dear Sir,

I have just rec'd your kind letter, for which accept my thanks. The regiments here are in a very bad condition, there being about four officers to every man, and their principal duty is strutting up and down Broadway in their showy uniform. There are the skeletons of some thirty or forty regiments, and when consolidated will make perhaps three full regiments. For these reasons I have not connected myself with any of the regiments. I think I shall succeed in getting a place in some of the new regiments (regular) now being raised by government. I can bring pretty strong recommendations I think, and trust they will prevail with the "powers that be." After I get all my papers together I shall probably come on to Washington and hope to have the pleasure of seeing you. I wrote you last Saturday before receiving your letter. Please present my regards to your wife when you write and also to Perry Lee who is with you I believe. In haste,

Yours very respectfully

EH Darling [Edwin Harris Darling]