
1463 10/20/1861 *From:* Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-1417

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

[408]

Farmington Oct. 20 / 61

My dear Brother

Perry wrote Sarah that your Brigade was assigned & that you had gone to Annapolis, but a letter from Mr Farwell dated afterward - the 16th - mentions you & Warren [Ephraim Warren Woodman] & says nothing of Annapolis. So, I conclude that Perry was mistaken.

I took Guy to Leeds last Monday & Lizzie & Grace came on to the cars & went as far as Lewiston with us. Lizzie was on her way to a Dentist to get relief from the toothache. She is not quite ready to come up here yet. The children were well - Jamie left at home for 5 or 6 hours. I went to Bath & found Ella & baby well. They come tomorrow & Abby Abel with them. Charles went to Augusta Tues. I saw him & Dellie in Brunswick. Charles was perfectly yellow with jaundice. He went to Dr. Briggs for medicine as soon as he got to A. He spoke to Col. Goddard about going in his Reg. & he said he would like to have him. All the methodist ministers & temperance Lecturers are trying to raise a Reg. for Neal Dow & I guess they will succeed in getting a Co. here. New Regiments are more popular than old. Shepley is recruiting pretty fast.

I will now give you some acct. of my Sab. I had about 180 hearers today - the roads are very bad from the frequent rains. My usual no. is over 200. I preached a.m. on Rom. 13-12, "So then every one of us shall give acct. of himself unto God." Individual accountability to God. In P.M. on Jer VIII-20 "The Harvest is past &c" & tried to <draw> some lessons from the closing autumn to awaken some Souls to a sense of their danger & to save them. I noticed also how similar the state of the Jews was to ours as a nation. O we are weary of waiting, waiting, with nothing to break the monotony but occasional disasters. I have stood by the Gov't, praised & excused it, but I am finally sick of its inefficiency & so are the people. We feel that our leaders are not the men for the crisis. O may God give us such soon! Our meetings were solemn today. This Eve. was S.S. Concert. We always have a bouquet of flowers in our Church & I talked to the children about the flowers in Christ's Garden above, one little one having been recently transplanted. We had a good, full interesting S.S. Concert. O that God would convert souls among us. Some seem seriously inclined. Charles enlisted a boy of 17, who very near, if not quite in the Kingdom.

Our winds are growing wintry, the leaves are almost all fallen & quite carpet over side walks, the grass is crisp & frost-bitten & November in Maine is at hand. Our frost held off wonderfully, till last week. John H. Otis is coming here to work in the Depot at \$350 per year. I think he does not intend to bring his family, indeed they could hardly live on that Salary. The war changes nothing here & were it not for the newspapers & an occasional sour & grumbly Democrat, we should hardly know that it exists. We are making up a package of Socks & blankets for the Soldiers, to be sent to the Sanitary Com! Sarah & her family are well. She has you & Perry on her parlor mantle piece. Remember me most kindly to Warren. Everybody rejoices in his promotion & hopes he will accept it. If his wife returns to Wilton she must come up & make us & Sarah a visit. We should enjoy it very much indeed, & she could get plenty of war news &c out of us who keep pretty well 'posted'. Do you want me to send you any religious papers?

Drop a line as soon as you have a Brigade or are ordered on duty. Need I say, Be careful of your Spirit, the good Spirit is easily grieved & when once gone, it is terribly hard to recover his sensible presence.

If you see Mr. Farwell, remember me to him & tell him I will write in a few days.

Your Affectionate Brother
Rowland

Gen. O.O. Howard

1464 10/21/1861 *From:* O.O. Howard
Brig. Genl. Vols.
Washington D.C.

To: Brig. Genl. Williams

Asst. Adjct. Genl.
Army of the Potomac

OOH-1418

Source: Bowdoin

[409]

Washington D.C.
Oct 21st 1861

Sir

In my letter to Capt J.B. Frye Asst. Adjct. Genl. Of August 14th 1861, Head Qrs. near Alexandria, I used the words, "he has gotten his leave extended without my recommendation or approval." These words convey a wrong impression. I did sign a request for a four months leave for Capt Savage in June last, but he obtained upon that request with others a leave of but two months, and as I now know with permission to apply for an extension. With regard to that extension I made no request.

In the letter of Gov. Washburn dated Aug. 23d 1861 to the Secretary of War I am quoted to say "His (meaning Capt. Savage) conduct with regard to bounties, does not seem to be strictly honorable." Upon the proof presented to me - I am happy to retract the charge. A statement in writing from the principal claimant, exonerates Capt. Savage completely.

As I feel that I have inadvertently done Capt. Savage injustice, I cheerfully recommend a reconsideration of his case.

Very respectfully Your
Obt. Servt.
Signed O.O. Howard
Brig. Genl. Vols.

To: Brig. Genl. Williams
Asst. Adjct. Genl.
Army of the Potomac

[Written on the last page]
Copy of Genl Howard's letter to Genl Williams
(Savage's matter)

1465 10/22/1861 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dearest wife [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1419

Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[412]

Washington D.C.
Oct 22nd 1861

My dearest wife,

Capt Hillhouse & Sewall talk to me about not writing oftener to my wife. They write every day. I don't think it best to write every day, though I do like to get letters from you every day. I am still at 376 "H" St. but do not think I will remain idle long. The Board of Examination has given away to Subordinate or Division boards. The officers on the Board at Arlington were Gen Blenker (German) President, Genl Martindale Graduate of West Point & Capt Hillhouse's Brigadier-Colonel now I believe Actg Brigadier Genl Stakel & Colonel Murphy, N. York 15th and your husband. Genl Martindale was exchanged for Genl King of Wisconsin, also an old graduate of West Point. This war brings out everybody who ever had any pretention to a military education. This morning we have the sad news of Genl Baker's death and the fear that we have met with a defeat again in the vicinity of Leesburg. The enemy manage in every encounter to outnumber us. God has not yet seen fit to withhold his hand from humbling us. Neither will He I fear till we learn to acknowledge him. "The battle is not always to the strong." Genl Baker is the Senator from Oregon. You will see all this before my letter gets to you.

I am glad you took father's bond for father's sake. I do not mind taking an interest in the Government loan. I think the very debt that is accumulating will cement us unless there comes a general break up which nobody can account for.

General Jameson just came in & hindered me just long enough to delay your letter another day.

Last night Capt Sewall & I went to a meeting of the Christian Young Men's Association to consider what could be done for the religious wants of the Soldier. The Secretary of the Boston Tract Society Mr Alvord was there & spoke enthusiastically of the evident manifestation of the presence of God's Spirit in the different regiments gathered about us.

This morning he came to me & I accompanied him to the "War Department building". I met the Prince de Joinville and exchanged a word with him about Genl Baker's death. He says "he died a Soldiers death fighting for his country." I think he must have been a little rusty in exposing himself and I feel especially to regret that one of our first men shot be sacrificed to so little purpose. After I passed De Joinville, I met Mr Blaine, who to my surprise turns up again in Washington. He said he saw Charlie, just before he left Augusta.

Tho I am unassigned I find enough to do. I ought to look upon my past privileges as mercies. During this <cold> rainy weather, I am under cover & I needed the religious training & <[CHECK ORIGINAL-glued right edge page 3]> I am getting. But it seems as tho if I am to bear no action <[CHECK ORIGINAL]> further than I have the last month, I might as well be at my darling wife & children.

I enjoy exceedingly everything you say about them. Gracie, bless her little heart, I wish she would often get up onto Gramma's lap & send messages to papa. Papa loves her very much and the more loving & good she is, the more he loves to think about her. Guy is so much of a man that he can go to Farmington alone. I want him to tell me all about his visit - describe uncle Rowland's house, his horse, his dog, his cat, his wife, his baby & what not. I want to know too if Guy remembers the Saviour. Tell him Jesus is father's best friend. He comforts him when far away from home. Last Sunday papa went to Church and ate a bit of bread & drank a swallow of wine with many friends of Jesus - this was done in remembrance of him. Mamma must take the Bible & read the account of Jesus' last supper to Guy.

And Jamie, Mamma says he comes to her so sweetly. I am losing all those little luxuries the little ways of a darling child.

We hear that Col. Cogswell is missing & Lt. Col. Ward has lost a leg & that two hundred lives are lost on our side and also that we are beaten.

Give much love to mother - I hope she is well & happy. Mr Farwell thinks very much of Mrs Norton's as a boarding place. But don't go any sooner than you like. It is doubtless very gratifying to Mother to hear from me as often as she does when you & she are at the same house and if she wants you to stay I would'nt hurry, but perhaps it will be better to be at Farmington on some accounts. Church close by - schools & Sunday school good & convenient.

I have not heard from Perry for some time. I saw an officer from the Brigade yesterday but I did not ask him. The Rev. Mr. Hall, Epis. Clergyman invited me & Capt Hillhouse to dine tomorrow. He is a "sledge hammer" to use one of his own favorite expressions - the author of "Hall's Commentaries", Mrs French seems to have commended me especially to him. But I do love old Dr Gurley of the Presbyterian church so much that I don't think I shall go any where else habitually while in Washington. Dr Gurley is much like His blessed master in Spirit. He is rather a slow & heavy speaker, but every word tells & he is faithful to speak out. Dr Hall is an orator, very high Church, says he don't believe in "means" commonly so called such as tracts & books, but he does agree with me as to personal labor & personal contact with men.

Kiss Guy & Gracie & Jamie, the little trio and let me say a blessing - "The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God & the communion of the Holy Spirit be with each one of you forever."

Love to Charlie & father

Your loving husband,
Otis

1466 10/22/1861 *From:* Sade Sampson

To: Dear Genl [OO Howard]

OOH-1420

Camp Howard

Source: Bowdoin

[410]

Camp Howard
Tuesday Morning Oct 22nd 1861

Dear Genl

Your letter with Capt Sewall's came safely Sabbath evening.

In regard to George we were not at all disappointed - in fact Charlie knew nothing of my writing - he has taken a man from his Company to cook for him until he may do better.

I do not wonder you should forget the circumstances of Campbell's death, when you have so much to think of; but you will readily recall them, when I remind you it was to select his burial-place, you and I took the little walk together one noon, to that beautiful little Cemetery opposite Col. Ward's encampment.

I wrote a long letter to his wife, at the time of his death giving her all the particulars of his sickness, and again after the funeral, sending her a lock of his hair and some pressed rose-leaves that had lain in his bosom. I have since visited his grave and took from it this little wild-flower and sprig which I pressed thinking at some convenient time I would send to his wife - but it had nearly escaped me till Capt. S. made mention of him. I now enclose them to you as his wife will appreciate them much more coming from you. I know she will.

In the Hospital he was the last one on the left hand side - bled very profusely at the nose all the time - died you know of Typhoid Fever and being delirious all the time, made no mention of home, friends, living or dying. But he was very quiet during his sickness and we were happy in taking care of him. Miss Bradley wrote to his mother and received an answer - but I had none from his wife - I think she must have received my letters as I directed as advised by his friends.

With yours came a letter from Charlie. He was in Augusta still sick with Jaundice though getting better - had consulted a Physician there. Had fifteen recruits - isn't that his part? If so I wish you'd ease him back.

Charlie and Will Watson were happy to be remembered by both you and Capt. S. and send their regards. We were all delighted with Capt. Sewall's picture. Isn't it perfect? Please tell him how thankful we were, and also if he is sick to send for me and I'll come on the "wings of the wind". Of course you will not think of being sick without sending for me.

I am getting over a small cold; this is the fifth day I have been confined to my room. Shall go out tomorrow if its pleasant.

Hoping to see you and Capt. S. very soon at Camp Howard. I am happy to remain a friend to you both.

Hastily & respectfully yrs
Sade Sampson
[Written in another hand]
Mrs Sampson
about Jno Campbell

1467 10/22/1861 *From:* Samuel G. Sewall

To: Sir [OO Howard]

OOH-1421

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[111]

Augusta Octo. 22d 1861

Dear Sir

I have tried to get the Gov. & Council to pay your order but they say they cannot do so, as they will be unable to get the account allowed by the general Govt. This being the case I am under the necessity of asking you to send me the amount, as I am getting quite short financially & need it very much. I am sorry to be obliged to ask this, as it would have been much more agreeable to all concerned if the Govt would pay it but I cannot afford to lose even so small an amount.

By attending to this immediately you will confer a great favor, as I am about leaving home in the eleventh Reg't. & would like to have the money to leave with my family.

Yours respectfully
Saml G. Sewall

(over)

The amt. of the order is Thirty 67/100 dollars (\$30.67).

[Written with another hand]
Samuel G. Sewall
Augusta
answered

1468 10/25/1861 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dearest Wife [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1422

Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[413]

Washington D.C.
Oct. 25th 1861

My dearest Wife

I hav'nt received a letter from you since I wrote, but got two, one from Chas. & another from Rowland last night. The latter gave an account of Guy's visits & return & said that you had started to get rid of that troublesome tooth. I do hope you have done so & that you are now better. The news this morning is that Genl Stone, formerly of the Ordnance, has withdrawn his forces to this side of the river. G.W. Smith has out maneuvered him up opposite Poolsville. Smith's plan probably devised in New York must be to cut off these forces on the right, whip them out, cut our only line of Communication, while Johnston holds Manassas by a sufficient force to check the advance of our centre. It will delight me exceedingly if McClellan will cut off Smiths communication by a march plumb to the front. "G.W." is the grandest traitor of them all. He stayed in N York till he knew our exact location & then went to the enemy.

I am still at 376 "H" St. Gen'l Marcy said I should be assigned to a command soon. How soon I do not know.

Last night I hesitated whether to go to Dr Gurley's lecture or to visit General Casey. I decided to visit, so I went to the office & thence to the house of the General but not finding him in, I went to the house of Col Kingsbury, but the Colonel & Mrs K. were both out. So I returned & stopped at the Church of Dr Gurley as I came past & heard just what I needed. He impressed me with this truth "Count it joy to suffer for Christ." That privilege only belongs to this life. Well I am not suffering, but a non-assignment has at times harrassed my mind & heart, but I believe I must wait on the Lord. The principle that Dr Gurley enunciated removes the possibility of real suffering, when carried out because the Spirit will mount above it. After lecture I went to call on Mrs Vincent, found Mrs Buel, Mrs Hancock, Mrs Hayes, & Miss Vincent together, consoling & somewhat anxious & unhappy. Mrs Vincent gave me a description of meeting you at the time you got my dispatch from Maine. Mrs Hancock said her husband did'nt have any idea how hard it was for her, a man could'nt realize it or comprehend a womans feelings. Mrs Hayes expected her husband to dine but he had'nt come nor sent word, and oh was'nt she anxious. She said she did'nt marry the soldier but the man & nothing would delight her more than to know that he had resigned. I felt how poorly prepared they were to meet such news as has gone to greet poor Mrs Baker.

Yesterday I was one of the pall bearers to Genl Baker. Poor man. I learn once a christian, but of late wild, bloodthirsty, drinking & profane. He is said to have uttered a terrible oath just before he was shot. Such are some of the dreadful things said of a General after his death. May the Blessed Lord deliver us "In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment." Yesterday, Genl Baker was brought to the house of Mr Webb near us & I went in to see his corpse but the lid was closed. I saw his hat like my old dress hat, with a bullet hole just at the base of the crown on one side. I saw also his uniform coat covered with dirt. I noticed one cut with a bullet on the arm, but did not raise it up to look further. The Soldiers who had taken his body from the enemy (I believe it was they) were near by in the room drawn up in one line. Rev. Dr Sunderland of this city preached his funeral sermon. Much of it grated on my heart. It was much like a patriotic speech & too little like a sermon. His brother & son were present. Nothing yesterday touched my heart.

One of the men fell down in a swoon during the exercises. I believe I am coming to a perfect impurtability of temper. I rode with, or opposite to Genl Denver of California, two Colonels ahead of me & two in advance of him. The distance to the Cemetery must be at least three miles. Col Wilson, the Senator, was one of the pall bearers. I was introduced to him & had a moments conversation. An immense crowd of most unintellectual people came to see the procession. Nobody evinced sorrow amongst them, some raised their hats as we passed. I wondered where so many people came from. Washington is no criterion by which to judge of our country. The passions & appetites & sins of "Great" small men who have run our Government upon the rocks, have left their Sad impression here and I doubt not the Army has called into its train its usual dirty brood of

followers. I don't love the concomitants of war. What a wail there will be in Massachusetts over the Sad disaster at Balls Bluff.

At home our people are getting vexed & tired of waiting to see the enemy finished, but it cant be done. They have the largest Army & the best officers. Their people are all in the war. Our best people are almost all at home waiting to be drafted. We will not wake up till, our communications are cut off & this Army is destroyed. It is'nt the numbers but the spirit that I complain of. We have the numbers in the field, but the spirit, the enthusiasm is at home. We want it here. God will help us when we stop self-seeking, place-seeking & money-making. When the pressure of want & deep sorrow is upon us then will we turn to the Lord & cry unto him, then will we grasp the means he has left us & go forth in His strength.

God bless you & the little ones & comfort you with His heavenly influence. Rowland writes me a good brotherly letter. I shall telegraph Charles today I think. His letter by being sent to Annapolis reached me very late.

Much love to Mother & Father. Kiss little olive branches.

Yr own
Otis

1469 10/25/1861 *From:* Charles [CH
Howard]

To: Dear brother Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-1423

Leeds

Annapolis

Source: Bowdoin

[414]

Leeds, Oct 25 1861

Dear brother Otis

I write you a letter to Annapolis having heard thro' Perry that you had a Brigade there. You will not be likely to get it. I came from Augusta via Bath. Wiggin has now got 10 men & hopes to get some more 1st of next month when the Fishermen come in. I left my office in Augusta in Charge of Dexter Howard. I have 6 names down there boarding at a house near the Mansion House. None enlisted in Augusta but quite a no. talk of it. The men we get now are slow to make up their minds & need good deal of talking to - all the Regts come slowly except the Cavalry which goes like the wind but is now about full - above 1000 at Augusta & nearly all the horses. Some of the officers are pious men, Gilley son of Jonathan P. is Capt. of one Co. & was a particular friend of mine in College. He is a religious man - was in at the Methodist Prayer-meeting with a lot of his men & took part the other evening. He is not a great man but will not lack courage or enthusiasm. Has been practicing law. I found him in his tent studying tactics.

I almost am afraid they will appoint me an officer of the Cavalry & then that you will not get me. What think you? Col. Goddard told me he would like much to have me & said he would speak to the Gov. about your letter. I told him that I had nothing to say & should not trouble the Gov. myself but if he chose to mention the matter he might. The Gov. will probably tell him which I did not that I am to go on your staff & not wishing to have any vacancies they will conclude not to appoint me.

If they could only fill the vacancy I would not hesitate to urge the matter. Don't you think it might be done in the same way that the vacancies were made in our regt by appointing an adjutant & Qr. Mr. Then you wrote to the Adj. Genl. I believe & got permission to have men commissioned for those places.

I came to Leeds in order to see some men of whom I had some hopes. Cannot get the Consent of Ezekiel Bates for Francis to go. He is 23 but his father is so "set" that he don't like to enlist. Saw to others yesterday of whom there is some hope. Read some good letters from Mr Keene. Guess I will make some tracts for publication.

I found Lizzie & Guy not well. They are getting better - the former of soar-throat - Guy something similar to Canker Rash but of very light form if that & he is about well. They are cheerful seemed glad to see me. Guy sent for me to come in & see him once or twice - not being allowed to come out here. I found that he had a store & was carrying on quite a business on the Carriage.

Mother has had a cold but seemed doubly active to care for the ailing ones.

Dr. Briggs I think did much to hasten my cure of the Jaundice. I shall return to Augusta Monday. Maj. Eastman was to be away till Saturday so that I could not arrange to have Wadsworth come up & drill the men. Could not in fact do anything wait & wait & wait in my office for nobody to come. I little over-state this however for during one or two days I had several callers who talked as tho' they might enlist after cogitating a few days.

One man I enlisted has enlisted also in the Cavalry - another has cut his foot & I did not get his father's consent - a miserable, drunken, Dana man so he is lost as he was only 20. Another of same age - said his father was willing, enlisted at muster but next day his father was unwilling & he will come up missing. So I have but 12 sure. You see I have my petty trials even in recruiting.

Maj. Eastman scratches out in my acct. Every thing except transportation & that only on Cars, ships &c. However, I think I am doing as well as any one in my business - also have opportunity of seeing home once-in-a while. If I cannot go with you as commissioned, I can as I went before if you want me. I should be entirely unwilling to remain in the 3d Regt to be back with them. I was in hopes to tell you about a good prayer-meeting

we had at Roland's last night. Father & mother down. Mr Chapin & wife - Capt Turner & wife but none of the young people - Jane Bates, Cynthia & her mother Sanford Gilbert & Orman's boy. An excellent spirit & promptings. Very glad of the opportunity & glad that father was there.

It makes me happy to hear of the brotherhood between you Mr. Sewall & Mr. Hillhouse. My regards to Mr. Sewall. Mr Baker came to me in a very cordial & kind manner after prayer-meeting at Augusta Sabbath evening. Rev. Mr. McKenzie said he knew you.

Write to Augusta as soon and often as you can will you not?

Yr affectionate Br.
Charles

Charlie Mulliken has Chronic Diarrhea but is able to write for Mr A.D. Brown. Lives with his father.

1470 10/26/1861 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dearest Lizzie
[Howard]

OOH-1424

Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[415]

Washington D.C.
Oct 26th 1861

My dearest Lizzie

I just write you a line this morning to tell you that I have received my orders. My Brigade consists of
4th Rhode Island,
36th Penn.,
45 Ditto, &
Gosline's Philadelphia Zouaves.

I will at another time tell you further.

I telegraphed to Chas. Yesterday to get a commission in Goddard's regiment. Genl Williams said I could'nt get him transferred unless he had a commission. I shall do my best to get him a commission.

I am to be stationed at Bladensburg at present, under Genl Casey. Thom Casey's Christian father. I have got Dr Palmer my old friend, have the prospect of having Wm H Owen my old Brigade Quartermaster & friend.

Much love & many kisses to the children. I send Abraham Lincoln for Guy & Grace to learn who is the President of the United States. Bladensburg is to the East bearing North of Washington. The Lord is very good to me & mine.

Affectionately
Otis

1471 10/28/1861 *From:* W. H. Owen

To: Dear Genl [OO Howard]

OOH-1426

Washington

Source: Bowdoin

[418]

Washington, Oct 28, 61

Dear Genl

I heard Saturday with great pleasure that you had been assigned a Brigade - a first rate one - also that you were making efforts to have me appointed your Qr. Master - for which accept my thanks. You cannot desire the appointment to be made more than I to be with you. I thought some letters I have might assist matters a little & brought them to you. Some of Harrkin's statements are rather highly colored as you will perceive, but, in the main, correct, I believe. You will of course not present the letter if you think it not proper. Mr Barney is collector of New York, as perhaps you know, & has a good deal of influence I suppose. I had some other letters but they are mislaid.

My successor has been assigned & I suppose will report in a day or two. So that, this application failing, there remains nothing for me but Company K & Richmond. Staples talks of recommending my name for Capt of Co. C. but I have no great faith in that, nor is it altogether agreeable to me to be thrust upon a Company that would probably prefer some one else.

From all which considerations, I pray you make every effort in my behalf consistent with your judgment your inclinations & your conveniences. I regret to be such an incubus upon you & I hope to be able to repay in some way your kindness & trouble. I will endeavor to see you this afternoon.

Very truly yours
W. H. Owen

I would have gotten an additional letter from Gen. Sedgwick but he has been in Washington since Sat. There is - or ought to be - however a strong letter from him, now, at the War Dept.

1472 10/28/1861 *From:* Dellie [RH Gilmore]

To: My dear Brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-1427

Bowd. Coll.

Source: Bowdoin

[417]

Bowd. Coll. Oct. 28. 1861

My dear Brother:

You can't think how glad I was to get a letter from you. I didn't know how you were nor where you were. I heard you had gone to Anapolis, then that you had a brigade in Virginia, then that you were on an examining board & then that you would go on some detached duty, nobody knew where. I wrote mother inquiring about you but I have had only one letter from her this term and that about six weeks ago. Rowland has not written me since the middle of August except about half a page on business and this is the first letter I have had from you since Charles was sick. I hardly know whether I don't write letters worthy of answers to my mother and brothers, or that they never remember me at all, or that they have so much to do and so many others to write to they can get no time for me. I am often quite blue in thinking of it. I love my mother and brothers as well as any brother does and I am anxious to hear from them, to know where they are and what they are doing. I don't know as I ought to write you in this way, but I can't help it. I have but few friends in the world except my brothers, nobody loves me except them and I often fear they don't care much for me. Rowland thinks I am a bad boy and is always making inquiries about me as though he could not trust me and when I am with him I feel like a criminal on trial. I have no one to cheer me or sympathise with me and I am getting gloomy and of a sore disposition. I have no one who cares for me here except my Saviour. I do go to him and after I have prayed a long time I feel better. I hardly know what I could do if I had no saviour to go to. Don't say anything to Rowland about what I have written.

There are a few of us yet in college who meet together a few times a week for prayer and conference. Five or six in my class meet weekly and about 20 meet in the College prayer-meetings. Christians are cold and those who are not Christians never go near the meetings. Remember us, Otis, in your prayers.

I have class of roguish little boys in the Baptist Sabbath School and they get their lessons well and recite them finely. I think they do very nicely though their former teacher said they would not get their lesson.

Charles passed through here one day and I saw him nearly an hour but it was while he was with Nettie. I had no time to ask about you or in fact to say any thing. I tried to get Rowland to stop over one train here which would be about one hour but he says he don't like to stop in Brunswick. I haven't heard from father or mother for more than six weeks. I haven't heard from Lizzie except in your letter, besides learning that she had gone to Leeds. The Railroad has more business than they now have the means of doing properly. Their most sanguine expectations are more than realized. They will soon have their old cars and engines fixed so as to carry more than now. The cars come into the same depot as the other R.R.

I think Charles is doing better recruiting than any other officer who is recruiting for regiments now in the field, though he isn't doing much. I stay here three weeks more and then go home to Thanksgiving, which is the 21 of Nov. On the Monday following I am going to Cumberland where I have a school engaged three months long. The P. Office is Cumberland Me.

I hope Lizzie will be at Leeds when I go home. Pray for me, Otis, and write soon.

Aff. Bro.
Dell

[written in another hand]
Answered
Dellie

1473 10/28/1861 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: My dearest Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-1428

Leeds Me.

Source: Bowdoin

[416]

Leeds Me. Oct 28. 1861

My dearest Otis

I am so happy that I can write you that we are all very well. I do think if I can only have my health I shall consider it a great blessing. Jamie has a slight cold but I can take good care of him now myself, and I feel quite sure it will amount to nothing. I have just put Guy and Grace to bed, and as they are not asleep I am very often interrupted by a question. Guy is telling about "when he was at Papa's regiment." He wants to know if those guns were papa's where Bush hill was. Will papa always wear two rows of buttons. Uncle Charlie must be an officer because he wears "eagle buttons." I never saw such an observing boy. Charlie's old coat has the "State of Maine" buttons. He came to Leeds, but he wrote you and I enclosed a note last Thursday from here. He went to Augusta this morning. I shall send your six shirts, a pair new pants, and your cape the very first chance I can. I know you need them much.

Aunt Sarah heard we were sick and came up here in the afternoon train Saturday. She returned this Monday morning. I am going to lose Isabella for a while. She wishes to go to school this winter, but will engage to come back to me at the end of twelve weeks and stay till December next winter. As I have arranged it, it is as well. I want six or eight weeks to myself without much visiting and also to be where I can sew and purchase what I shall need for the children. Aunt Sarah is perfectly delighted to have me go to her. She lives next door to Adams and Fanny, Uncle Alden. I really think that is best, and Mother wants another visit before March.

Isabella remains about little less than a month longer and is to come back the very first of March. In doing as I have planned I shall not have to hunt up a new girl for at Aunts great house, Eva and Minnie will render me all the assistance I shall need. I presume this will not interfere or hinder my wanting Mr Farwells house. Rowland thinks it is March and not Dec. that I could have his house. He thinks the year begins then. I don't feel that I can go to Farmington without Isabella. It would take some time for Jamie to get acquainted with a new girl and I might have to change more than once and in fact I shouldn't know where to look for one at all. Jamie got acquainted with Aunt immediately.

Isabella seems very desirous of living with me. She has a brother in the 12th Mass. Gen Banks division. He wrote the Christian letter I spoke of. Our mail came very late this evening, No letters. The same as none to me for there were none from you, a note from Rowland. Ella and baby have been home one week. Abby is with her.

Tuesday evening.

Mother went to Farmington this afternoon because Rowland wrote that the baby was'nt very well, and she thought she might do something for the little fellow. Col Gilmore returns with a good long letter from you, the one dated Oct 25 and containing an account of Gen'l Baker's funeral, and visit to Mrs Vincent. Mrs Hayes I met at West Point. She is one who has very warm friends, and very strong prejudices.

I cannot answer this letter. I only sit and think, and have let the evening pass in this way. When I get a little down-hearted, I wish I could be in Washington a while. I am glad you heard Dr Gurley's lecture. I don't know but he is right, think he is. I don't think Grace or Jamie will have the scarlet fever. We are all well now, with the exception of Jamie's cold.

Wednesday morning.

I will add a few words this morning, dearest. Jamie is having his morning nap. Grace in the yard with Grandpa. Guy stands by me, sends three kisses. He is very busy with sticks and tools. This is a very pleasant morning. I have promised to take a walk with the children soon. Col Gilmore nearly ready to go to the Depot to meet Mother and mail this letter. So Good bye at present.

Your own
Lizzie

1474 10/29/1861 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest Lizzie [Howard]

OOH-1429

Hd Qrs Bladensburg

Source: Bowdoin

[041]

Hd Qrs Bladensburg
Oct 29th 1861

Dearest Lizzie,

I received yours & Chas' letter this morning & shall be considerably anxious till I hear from you again. I am afraid you don't act up to your principle in letting me know that you are sick at once. I am glad you were comfortable & hope by this time you & Guy are well. I don't like the sound of discharges from the ear. Hope the dear little fellow will not suffer with sores in his head. Oh, You must tell Grace papa was delighted to get her first letter, and such a good & true letter "I LOVE PAPA". Kiss her rosy cheeks many times for that.

I have just taken up my head quarters at Bladensburg, with three regiments here & one at Good Hope south of the City of Washington. The Penn. Zouaves are detached from my command & will go to Genl Franklin near Alexandria tomorrow. I don't know what Regiment will take its place. The 4th Rhode Island is on the left of the road from Washington to Bladensburg. I am just on the right. The other two regts still further to the right. We look toward the village <[torn page]> tent was put up this evening just before sunset. I have two wall tents so I had them put together end to end. I have a little stove. I put it up & let the funnel run out to the front tonight. Capt Sewall & I put our beds close together so as to make one, so as to keep warm.

[Drawing of the layout of the two tents]

My hasty plan will give you some little idea of how we are. The road is ten rods from us & the village a half a mile. The Adjutant's tent & the Dr's will be on the right & the Aides on the left.

I do hope you will be well when this reaches you.

Direct to B.G. Howard 1st Brigade, Casey's Division, Washington DC.

Much love to Mother & father. A great deal of love to Guy, Grace, & Jamie. You must all remember me in your prayers. I hear that the fault found with me is that I am too gentle, would you have thought so? God bless you. I must bid you good night.

Affectionately
Otis

P.S. I can appoint <Chas [torn page]> <> the moment <[torn page]>

1476 10/30/1861 *From:* Charles [CH
Howard]

To: My dear Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-1430

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[420]

Augusta Oct 30. 1861

My dear Otis

I have just returned to the Mansion House where I board from a Methodist Prayer-meeting where half the house was filled with soldiers who are soon going forth to the war. Some half doz. of them testified to a hope in Christ. One Officer was present & spoke - an earnest man with his heart full of the love of God. It did me good to hear him & others speak out of a full heart. I would like to dwell upon the subjects & scenes of the meeting but business must have its place even tonight. You will be glad to know that one soldier rose for prayers. I hope many others received impressions which will not leave them till they find peace in believing.

Maj. Eastman for whom I & many others have been waiting a long time came back tonight & I hope to get some directions with regard to my men and some of my accts settled. People complain of his slowness to do business. I have now 19 men enlisted with a good prospect of several others this week. Have enlisted 4 since I wrote you.

I received your dispatch while at Leeds. It was sent up from here to me while away hunting up men. When I got back here Monday the Gov. was absent at Boston. He got back last night & I saw him tonight. He says all the places are filled in the Cavalry with perhaps one exception when a man may be excluded for Intemperance. In case this vacancy occurs he will appoint me provided I am satisfactory to the Company & the Col. and provided I will stand in the Company in case a real vacancy is not made by my being appointed your aid. He is going to write to Washington to know whether the vacancy occurring by your making me your aid can be filled. If it can he will appoint me at any rate and I shall be all ready to join you which I will be glad to do whenever you want me.

I do not dislike my present business, but my pay is hardly enough considering that many of my expenses are not paid.

If I get a commission in the Cavalry I get 17 dollars per month more pay than in the Infantry. I wish you would see the Adj. Genl. & get the privilege of having the vacancy filled - if you think you can do anything to secure this end. The Gov. will probably write tonight or tomorrow and if you think best you could state how that I have been with you all summer in the service. But you may think it advisable not to say or do anything about it. If you do think so I shall not be dissatisfied. Perhaps you may think the Gov's letter sufficient.

I told him I would serve as Lt. in the Co. provided he appointed me & afterward found that the vacancy could not be filled.

Brick, discharged from the 3d Maine Band has been in the Bar-Room drunk since I have been writing. I heard him eulogizing you but he tells some awful lies & keeps drunk every night. He acknowledges this & says he is sober daytimes.

7 of my recruits are pious & all are young men of good habits with perhaps a single exception. A letter from Col. Staples to his father bro't only good news from the 3d Regt. tonight.

If you already know that the vacancy from my appointment as aide can be filled - please telegraph & charge to me the expense if you will. I am happy to write that the Saviour has seemed nearer of late & I hope to enjoy Christian communion with you more than ever before.

Your affectionate Brother
Charles

Mr. Brick sends his best respects & says he is convalescent.

1477 10/31/1861 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dearest wife [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1431

Head Qrs Camp Casey
near Bladensburg

Source: Bowdoin

[421]

Head Qrs Camp Casey
near Bladensburg
Oct 31 1861

My dearest wife,

I will write you a few lines tonight for fear I will not have time tomorrow. I am quite anxious to hear from you & Guy again. It takes me one day longer now to get letters. However I shall send to the office once a day in Washington.

One of my Regiments is ten miles from this place. When I visit it, I have a nice ride of twenty miles. After inspecting two here I went thither this afternoon & inspected that. When I got back I found another Regiment the New Hampshire 5th here & attached to my Brigade in the place of the Zouave just removed.

I think I shall like the change. First because this is a New England regiment & next that it has not been like the Zouave Regt raised in a City.

My regiments now are
The Fourth Rhode Island Colonel Rodman
The 5th New Hampshire Col. Ross
The 36th Pennsylvania Col Miller
& The 45th Pennsylvania Col Welch

The officers of all but the N.H. Regt are strictly opposed to drinking and Col. Ross said tonight that he had expelled before starting all the drunkards he had. The poor N.H. Regt. came in tonight in the cars from Baltimore. A treacherous conductor cut off their supply lines & their arms in boxes & also their tents, so that here they are sleeping on the ground without tents.

I do hope Charlie can get a commission for I want him now. I am doing duty with a brigade but have not yet got a Quartermaster or Commissary nor Aid. I have detailed a few to act in these several capacities.

I got a long letter from Fort Randall from Tannatt & he is in great trouble from the abuse of a villain, who is a relation of Lincoln, the president. On account of some contracts that Tannatt was too honest to give him, this man who has become a delegate to Congress, has come here to do him harm. He wrote his letter some time ago & to the 2nd Maine. It was afterwards directed to the 3d & has just reached me.

I cant help returning to the children & your own dear self. You must tell me just how you are.

I should like to give you a description of my quarters. I have changed to a better position a little to the North of the R.I. Regt. Dr Palmer has arrived. George the colored boy state cooks. John also remains with me.

I think Charlie will be highly pleased with my Regiments. Capt Hillhouse told his wife the next day after I wrote you. He thinks he will have to give up the field. He is still at 376 "H" St. The Dr says he is better today. Oh, he is a man without guile. Capt Sewall is working hard at his duties - very capable & industrious.

Much love to all. Many kisses to Guy, Grace & Jamie. God bless & comfort you all.

Affectionately
Otis

1478 10/31/1861 *From:* Arthur H Dutton
2d Lt Engineers
Washington

To: General [OO Howard]

OOH-1433

Source: Bowdoin

[422]

Washington 31st Oct [1861] [The year was written in pencil.]

General,

My brother Mr C.E. Dutton, who bears this note, has been visiting me for a couple of weeks, during which time he has decided to take an active part in the war, provided he can do so in a capacity suited to his education. Learning that you have not as yet selected all your staff officers. I have urged him to solicit from you the position of volunteer aide de camp.

If upon acquaintance with him, you should deem him suited to undertake the office, & should accordingly confer it upon him, you would place both him & myself under lasting obligations.

You will not attribute it to personal interest if I assure you that he is especially well qualified for the office, possessing all the qualifications that a young man not regularly educated for a soldier can possess.

Possibly there may be difficulty about securing his commission, in case you favor him with the appointment. He will see to that hereafter.

It may be well to mention that he designs studying for the ministry at the close of the war.

With the greatest respect, & best wishes for your future

I am Sir
Very truly your friend
Arthur H Dutton
2d Lt Engineers

[Written in another hand on the back of the letter]
Did not see the bearer
O.O.H.
Dutton