
1480 11/1/1861 *From:* Elias H. Marston *To:* Mother

OOH-1434 Co. D. 5th N.H. Vols

Source: Bowdoin

[423 1/2]

Extract from letter sent from Camp Casey, Bladensburg, in Nov. 1861

“After sermon the general (Howard) said he wished to say a few words, and went on to tell us that, as he had always done in other matters, so he wished to express his views on the subject of religion. He avowed himself a believer in the Christian religion, and a follower of the Redeemer, and desired us to frown upon all wickedness, and seek to maintain the right. This is the substance of what was said, and I actually had hard work to keep from shedding tears. I was so glad to find him so noble a man.”

This letter sent to his mother from Camp Casey by
Elias H. Marston
Co. D. 5th N.H. Vols
Afterwards Adjutant.
Now of 27 Maple Av., Somerville Mass.

[Written by OO Howard on the back page]

Gnl Edward E. Brass commanded the 5th N.H. Regt., was killed at Gettysburg. His Regt. was with me at Fair Oaks, and Marston saw me on the cars as I left the F. Oaks Stn. June 2nd 1862.

1481 11/1/1861

From: Frederick Robinson
Corpl Co. D 5th Arty

To: My Dear General [OO
Howard]

OOH-1435

Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[423]

Washington D.C. Nov 1, 61

My Dear General

I called at your house in H Street a few days ago, but was informed that you left that very morning for your Brigade at Bladensburg. My object in doing so was briefly as follows.

My time in the army expires in about one year and nine months from this date. I have now served more than 8 years, been employed as Commissary Sergeant, Hospital Steward &c and while stationed at Fort Brady Mich. had property to the amount of several thousand dollars under my immediate care, for a period of more than two years. I think the circumstances of the case, and the general character I have sustained as a soldier, justify me in making an application for the benefit of that portion of the act of Congress passed a few years ago, in relation to promotion from the ranks. I introduced the subject to Captain Griffin, a week or two ago, who said he would be happy to forward my interests in every possible way, but advised me nevertheless, to defer the application till the Battery went again into action, as in that case it would be more likely that my claim would be attended to by the authorities. In the mean time however he suggested the propriety of securing a few letters from those officers to whom I am personally known, to be used as enclosures with my application. I have already a very handsome note from Captain Griffin given to me on leaving his office in Virginia, and another from my old commander, Capt F. Clark 4th Arty.

As an officer & gentleman, for whom I have always had the very highest respect, and who has known me at West Point for more than two years, I would request your influence in my favor, by a line recognizing my general habits as a steady soldier and as a reliable man. As I never unfortunately had an opportunity of serving under you, your letter must be somewhat circumscribed from this fact; yet at the same time, the very high position you now hold, must necessarily secure attention to your recommendation at the War Department.

I also hope to get a letter from Brig Genl Wadsworth of New York, who has already expressed a friendly sympathy in my case, and who I believe is possessed of considerable influence with the present administration. With these and the endorsement of Capt Griffin, I intend to submit my case to the proper authorities, and then let matters take their course. Be the ultimate event as it may, I shall remain satisfied.

There is one point however to which I would advert, and in doing so I hope you will not deem me guilty of anything approaching to either servility or flattery. I allude to the kindly interest you always have taken in the enlisted men of the army, and to myself among the number. Alas, my dear General, there is too little of what Shakespeare calls the "milk of human kindness" exhibited towards us by the unthinking many, for me to remain insensible of the many little services you performed for us at West Point. I am too poor and too dependent to offer any thing more substantial than my simple acknowledgment, but such as it is I give it heartily. The best wish I can give, is that neither you, nor any person connected with you, may ever know an hour of sorrow.

If the Battery should be called away unexpectedly, a letter directed to me, care of Mr. J. Shilling, Bookseller, Penn. Av. Will come to hand.

I am my dear General
Your most obedt svt & aff friend
Frederick Robinson
Corpl Co. D 5th Arty

[written on the bottom of the last page]

Robinson
answered

1482 11/3/1861 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: My dearest Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-1436

Leeds, Me.

Source: Bowdoin

[424]

Leeds, Me. Nov. 3, 1861

My dearest Otis

I have brought my writing into the dining room, because Isabella and the children are very happy in my room, and if I should remain there, little Jamie would leave his play and think I must take him but is just as well off and happy if I am out of sight. No one here with me but Col. Gilmore, who sits in his large chair reading, and Mother who is seated on the lounge seems to have finished reading. I am writing after dinner a little past 4 o'clock but it is getting quite dark. Guy just ran out and back asked if I was writing with the pen he gave me. He heard me say a few days since, that I was out of pens.

We have been speaking about the "Fleet" and hoping this severe storm does not reach them. Commenced raining in the night and has rained incessantly all day, but I think the wind is not blowing as hard now.

Since writing the above I have given the children their tea and put them to bed. They are all sleeping sweetly now at half past seven o'clock. Grace has seemed a little dull and asked me to rock her occasionally since last Wed'day and Friday covered with rash, very nicely out all over. So I think I shall have to say she has had scarlet fever. I must be over carefull that they do not take cold. Her throat was quite red inside and I immediately got up an irritation on the out side with hot vinegar, salt and c. pepper and she has had no trouble with it. She and Guy have been very happy today. I spent nearly all the morning reading to them and hearing them say the commandments &c.

Grace has had read and reread, looked and relooked at what "Papa said about her letter", and had pointed out to her where Grace was written and read over and over again "I love papa" and looked at your plan of your tent, and held it in her hands so long, that Guy "Wonders what makes Grace look at Papa's letter so much." Guy seems to think you are quite near home if you are this side of Washington, and he seems to think there are no secessionists near you, which gratifies him very much. His left ear is not quite well yet. Jamie is well.

Oscar was here this evening and I did not know before that William Turner drinks, and pretty hard I should think. When he was trying to get men to enlist they would not go with him because they would see that he had been drinking. I hope there will never anything come up against you because you recommended him for a commission. It is not known here that you did so, and I am glad.

Tuesday afternoon.

I will add a few words but I have not much time for it is three o'clock already.

Charlie came in just now quite unexpectedly. Jamie don't seem quite well to-day but is bright and playful. His throat looks swollen. All the rest well. Grace went to sleep in my lap a short time ago. Guy and Grand-mother have been to ride up the hill on an errand.

Your own,
Lizzie

1483 11/3/1861 *From:* L. R. Browne

To: Friend [OO] Howard

OOH-1437

Epworth Dubuque Co
Iowa

Source: Bowdoin

Epworth Dubuque Co Iowa Nov 3d 1861

Friend Howard -

I write you a friendly line & am quite certain it will be rec'd in the same spirit. Having read of your truly brilliant success at the Bull Run battle, of your promotion & the general upward tendency of fortune in this singular war, I trust I can congratulate you without a seeming impertinence. Permit me to say then that I view with pleasure your success & hope you will wear your Honors with a grace becoming the true Soldier.

I have a Brother in law in Company D 5th Regiment Maine Volunteers, A.J. Beane, who enlisted in the Ranks & is now Commissary of Company D as he informs me. He is a man of good education, honest, capable & can be trusted in any place. I thought it would not be too much for me to say to you, that any favors you may show him will only exhibit that goodness of heart which I have so much reason to thank you for while at the Point.

I have thought of taking a hand in this struggle & may before it closes. We seem to be moving very cautiously of late & I am glad to see it.

I would consider it a great favor, the reception of a letter from you at this time. Be so kind as to grant it. Receive my best wishes for your success & safe return from the lines & tented fields, safely in health. Give my best respects to any of our class in your lines. I am well, living well, content with my lot &c.

Your Friend

L. R. Browne [Levi R. Browne, Class of 1854, was a roommate of Otis in their first two years, but did not graduate.]

[Written on the back of the page in another hand]

L. R. Browne
answered

1484 11/3/1861 *From:* Ella [Howard]

To: brother Otis [OO Howard]

OOH-1438

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

[426]

Farmington Nov. 3rd 1861

I never wrote to a Brig. Gen'l before, and am at a loss as to the proper style of address, but I believe I shall still write, as my heart dictates.

My dear brother Otis -

I thank you a thousand times, for that perfect picture of yourself and Mr - (I beg his pardon) Capt. Sewall, which I received from Mr. Caswell the other day. It is just exactly like you, and I need not tell you, that Rowland and I both, value it as a treasure. Poor Rowland is preaching today to empty pews, with perhaps a dozen persons scattered about in remote corners - for it is a rainy Sabbath, and Farmingtonians, as a general rule, are fair weather people.

We were hoping to have Lizzie near us, this winter, but I believe she has decided to spend the most of it at Auburn, with her Aunt. I have only seen her once, since she came to Maine, & I fear I shall not see her very often while she is at Auburn, as we both have babies! I am hoping to have a visit from her though before she goes there.

We were rather amused at your minute enquiries about your little nephew - a stranger would have known that you had had babies of your own! As to his looks - people when they come to see him say - "very healthy looking child" - "guess he's a good baby" - "rather small, isn't he?" - sometimes one will go so far as to call him "a nice baby" - but nobody says "what a pretty baby"! His father & mother call him a little beauty, and pretend they think he is - whether he is or not. I will leave you to judge. A little round head, on which a crop of yellow-white furze seems to be sprouting - we hope it will ripen into respectable hair, some of these years, but we may be disappointed - a good forehead (or as it seems to promise) & pretty eyes - blue & large - the puggest of all pugs, by way of nose - a cunning little mouth, & a dimple in his chin. Isn't that a "little beauty" now? As to "what he wears" - his apparel is about what young gentlemen of his age are usually arrayed in, with the addition of a little white sack, with a red border, of which the sleeves are too short already. You have the young man, as far as I can represent him, with pen & ink.

Rowland has come, & he & the baby keep up such a conversation, that I cant write. Please remember me to Capt. Sewall, & thank him for his part of the picture. Rowland will write some, I guess.

With much love,
Ella

1485 11/4/1861 *From:* C.H. Howard

To: My dear brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-1439

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[425]

Augusta Nov. 4 1861

My dear brother

This beautiful morning waiting in my office I will write you tho' I have heard nothing further about my commission.

It was a very rainy day yesterday. Thin attendance at Rev. Mr. McKenzie's - Few ladies - Miss Susie Brooks was there. By invitation of S.S. Brooks Esq. I went over & took tea with himself & brother Lot evening. I had never met with any of the family before. He took me over in the same chaise with his lady Miss Wadsworth of Augusta whom he is soon to marry I hear. They all seemed to esteem you very highly & Miss Susie tho't she must be acquainted with me since I resembled you so much. Had a pleasant stay. Miss Cony was there & young Mr. Voie.

I enjoyed the sermons yesterday - Communion at noon - Text of A.M. "Do this in remembrance of me." I thought of the poor Christian soldiers who cannot keep this sacrament of our Lord. Text in P.M. "Be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in you with meekness" &c. Horatio Howard attended church with me in the afternoon. He is son of Abel Howard. I was named for his brother who died. He is an M.D. & has enlisted in the Cavalry. Is a fine fellow but not a Christian - said his father, mother & brothers were. Hope he will soon become one. Says one pious man in his tent conducts prayers morning & evening.

The 11th Regt attended Rev. Mr. Hayne's Baptist Church last evening. They filled the house. He preached from the words - "The only name given among men whereby we must be saved."

He has begun to enlist for the Artillery. 5 batteries are to be raised in this state. He will be a Lt. - His sermon was written but he spoke to them at its close extemporaneously calling them "Comrades". He is quite an easy speaker.

Your last letter to Lizzie & the one to me or Lizzie - she remailed to me adding a note of her own. Your letters gave me great pleasure. I read them to the old gentleman Mr. Craig who met you he says at Mr. Bradbury's. He boards at the Mansion House where I do. He is a Christian man. Most of the Cavalry officers board there but they are not very congenial to me.

Col. Goddard has remained a little cool. I guess the Gov. has told him that I was to go with you if I got a commission & so he does not want to give me one in his Regt.

Dexter Howard is a very fine young man & assists in the office attending here when I am absent. He sits near now. His mother feels very badly to have him go. I have 20 recruits. Maj. Eastman has had me put under Mr. Wiggin because a Sergt. has no right to incur any expense without orders. Capt. Hight did not tell me so but allowed me to proceed as tho' an officer - regarding me under a recent order as an "agent." I got Wiggin to vouch for one of my accounts. He rec'd the money & paid it over to me - part of what I have paid out. I hope to get the remainder in the same way. I have learned to know the meaning of the expression "red tape".

They call Maj. Eastman a "slow coach". The Bangor paper said you were assigned to a Brigade at Martinsburg. You wrote Bladensburg & Good Hope.

I am very glad John is with you. Tell him I always think of him when I wind up his watch. I went to see his parents & sisters at Skowhegan. They seemed glad to see me & his father told me to tell John to keep up good courage - be a good boy & give it to the rebels as they deserve.

Where is my saddle & bridle? Where is my valise & other property? My overcoat & blouse. I have not yet paid Hall. I think I paid for the Bridle. Are you allowed 4 horses from Government now as you were while acting? I

hope so that I may have one of the regulation saddles. I hear that that intemperate Lt. from Bangor will be rejected so that there will be a place for me in the Cavalry if the Gov. would only put me in there. He would do so speedily were it not for leaving the Co. deficient in one officer when I go with you. I trust the Lord will direct me so that I may go in the way best suited to His great purposes & that all things will work for the best. My regards to Capt. Sewall. He must be very busy as well as yourself now. Don't you want me to come on without waiting. Of course you will make known your wishes & I am ready to comply.

Very affectionately
C.H. Howard

When we get 50 men they will be sent on - Have 37 now. I may go with them when they go.

1486 11/4/1861 *From:* James Q. Gilmore *To:* Brig Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-1440

#142 Coml St
Boston

Source: Bowdoin

[428]

Boston Nov 4th 1861

Brig Genl Howard
Dear Sir

I received your kind letter of Oct 21st in due course of mail for which you have many thanks.

At our missionary meeting last evening I took the liberty to read it and if you could have seen the interest manifested I think you would have come to the same conclusion that I did which was that this one letter of yours was doing good in calling the attention to the work of Christ in the Army. I know you would have enjoyed the meeting very much for there was an earnest desire manifested to be better followers of our Lord & master.

Dear Sir. You have our thanks for the letter and our prayers for your success and would to God that more of our Officers were as earnest in the cause of Christ.

When you have time we should all be glad to hear from you again how the course of our master progresses.

I wish I might do something to repay you for your trouble but I don't know how. There is more than usual interest in our meetings of late and the house of prayer is quite well filled.

As is always the case the more we love Christ the more we love our fellow men so now they are looking around to see who they can get to attend.

Last Saturday I sent by the Army Express a package of Books & tracts to you. I have a class in the Sabbath School of 12 boys between the ages of 14 and 16. I take up a collection in the class every Sabbath the money to be appropriated to some good object. This year we had some 5 or 6\$ in the box and last week they decided to buy books and tracts and send them to you to give to those you think best.

This package goes from them and you can give them to those you think best either in the Camp or hospital. Although they do not expect it I would be glad to have you if you have time send them a line telling them how the books were received and thus encouraging them to do good.

They are all good boys, regular in their attendance and have their lessons well generally but the one thing needfull they lack they have not given their hearts to the Saviour.

Their names are Henry R. Farley, Azel Ames, George Emmerson, Edgar Sherman, Louis Breed, William P. Smith, Frederick Hatch, Seyman Penney, Gideon Haskell, Thomas Bell, Homer Curtis and Frederick Bailey.

Thanking you again for your letter, I am

Yours &c
James Q. Gilmore
#142 Coml St.
Boston

[Written on the back page in another hand]
Hd. Qrs. 1st Brigade
Answered

1487 11/7/1861 *From:* Saml G. Sewall

To: Brig Gen O.O. Howard

OOH-1441

Augusta Me,

Source: Bowdoin

[429]

Augusta Me, Nov 7/61

Dear Sir

Your favor of 3d inst enclosing check on New York for (\$31.00) thirty one dollars, came to hand last evening, for which accept my thanks. I have not at hand the minutes of my account but enclose the order which you gave me on the Treas. of Maine which amounts to \$30.67 the balance 33 cts I shall have to pay for exchg.

I am expecting to leave with the 11th Regiment on Monday next as 2d Lieut. in Co. F. We have in Col Caldwell a man of high character & one who altho new in military life gives promise of soon attaining to a high rank as an officer. He is a gentleman in every respect and commands the unqualified respect of all who are connected with him. He is a strict temperance man and is most assiduous in his endeavor to promote the best interests of all under his command.

Again thanking you for your prompt reply to my request,

I remain with my best wishes for your prosperity & success

most respectfully

Your obed Servt

Saml G. Sewall

Brig Gen O.O. Howard

[Written on the back in another hand]

Samuel G Sewall

Nov 7th 1861

1488 11/7/1861 *From:* W. H. Owens

To: Brig Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-1442

Head Quarters 8th
Brigade
Camp Sacket

Source: Bowdoin

[430]

Head Quarters 8th Brigade
Camp Sacket, Nov 7, 61

Dear General,

I saw my appointment in Saturdays papers. Monday I went to the Adjutant General's office to hurry up matters & found that the letter of notification had been sent to Genl McClellan's Headquarters to be sent to you. On enquiring there your whereabouts they informed me that you had gone down into Maryland some thirty miles.

From the fact of my not having heard from you I thought it possible that the letter had failed to reach you. Please inform me for it is important that I should accept as soon as possible & be looking after my bonds.

Gen Sedgwick has sent back to Washington a quartermaster who was assigned to him & seems very much disinclined to give me up. So you will have to fight for me, I am afraid, if you want me.

Permit me to thank you again for your persistent & energetic efforts in my behalf, to which I undoubtedly owe my appointment.

My letters are usually addressed, now, "Head Quarters Sedgwick's Brigade, Alexandria, Va."

Very truly & respectfully yours
W. H. Owens

Brig Gen. O.O. Howard
Comdg - Brigade

[Written in another hand on the back]
W. Owens

1489 11/8/1861 *From:* Lizzie [Howard] *To:* [OO Howard]

OOH-1443 Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[432]

Leeds, Nov. 8, 1861
Friday Evening

I must write you a few lines on your birthday, Dearest, but I am not in the mood for letter writing, for I am a little tired, and consequently down hearted. Grace don't get over the scarlet fever as soon as Guy did, and Jamie is restless. His throat is some swollen yet, but I don't think it worse; there is a kernel under his left ear, and under his right cheek it is swollen. I hope the worst is over with them both, but it is a treacherous disease. I am quite well, and Isabella is a great help, and willing to do anything for the children. I sat by Jamie Tuesday night and kept his mouth wet all the time and Isabella the next night, and last night I went to bed with him and slept about as usual. Grace is not quite as well to-day because she played so hard "hide and seek" yesterday afternoon. I am tired because I have held her a greater part of the day, but it is evening now and they are both asleep and I can rest.

It seems to be very sickly everywhere. Hannah Leonard who has been sick some time died last Wednesday, and I have to inform you of the sickness and death of our friend and neighbor Mrs Turner Oscar's Mother. She had a fever five days and passed peacefully away last night. Have I ever told you of the death of Grand-mother [Mariam (Knight) Waite d. 10 Oct 1861]? She was buried the twelfth of Oct. I knew nothing of it till I went to Lewiston the following Monday. I wish I had gone to see her before her death, but I didn't think I could leave or take Jamie, and I could'nt see any way for me to go, unless they might have come for me.

If we all had been well I should have gone to Aunt Sarah's this week but I know not now when I can go. I shall not dare to take the children out for some time after they recover, if the Lord lends them to us longer.

I have received your picture. I am so very happy to have it. I got it Tuesday evening so I had something to look at in the night while up with Jamie. I am glad Capt Sewall is with yours.

Friday morning. [Presumably Saturday morning]

I slept so late this morning I have no time to write. I did not go to bed till very late. Grace is dressed and looking at the first snow that is falling. Guy is very well and so am I. Jamie about the same.

The Lord will take care of us.

Yours
Lizzie

1490 11/9/1861

From: Frank W. Haskell

To: Brig. Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-1444

Head Quarters 3d Me
Regt
"Camp Howard" Va

Washington, D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[433]

Head Quarters 3d Me Regt
"Camp Howard" Va
9th Nov 1861

General -
Sir:-

Although you have aided me greatly heretofore I would respectfully ask you consideration of this letter, hoping it will meet with your approval. On your recommendation Colonel Staples gave me an appointment as 2nd Lieut in "C" Co., but upon the petition of the Co that one of the Sergeants belonging to it should be Commissioned, the Governor of Maine approved their selection. Colonel Staples promises me at an early day an appointment as above, but knowing that in whichever Company the appointment is made it will create hard feeling, I think that an appointment in one of the new Regiments now forming in Maine would in many respects be preferable.

If you have confidence in my ability, General, I would like a similar recommendation to the one you gave me before, to forward to the Governor of Maine under the endorsement of Colonel Staples & Major Burt. Hoping for an early reply, I am Genl

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servt
Frank W. Haskell

To:
Brig. Genl O.O. Howard
Washington, D.C.

[Written in another hand]
Haskell's letter
Nov 11, 1861

1491 11/9/1861

From: E.W. Woodman

To: Brig. Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-1445

Entering Port Royal,
S.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[434]

Entering Port Royal, S.C.
Nov 9th 1861

Dear Cousin

You will learn the doings of this Expedition [Battle of Port Royal] by the papers, therefore I will say but little about it. We had a rough time in getting here. Lost two steamers & perhaps more. The Steamer which had my Horse & saddle aboard has run into Charleston. She was weak & the Capt was a Baltimore man. So you see I am afoot again. Well such is the fortune of War. We have not been paid off yet, so I cannot do as I would like & send what I owe you. There were about 90 Horses lost & perhaps 20 men on that Steam boat.

Gen'l Wrights Brigade landed the morning after the fort was abandoned. One or two Regts landed same night. Our Brigade (Gen Viele) are yet on Ship board & I do not know why it is so. It may be that his Brigade will be taken to some other place. Most of Gen Stephens Brigade has landed. Those two Brigades are able to hold these two points with the 50 or 60 Guns left by the Rebels. The Guns were not spiked & some of them left loaded. It is evident that they were not expecting a defeat. They left knapsacks, blankets, & muskets. Even the Officers left a few watches. It is a wonder that they did not do more execution with their big guns & especially their Rifle Cannons. They had just mounted 2 or 3 big Guns & one a Rifle, on the back side of the Fort which showed that they were expecting us to land & attack them in the rear.

Our Pilot was on board one of the ships which had 3 Guns & he showed me the a/c of their firing. One Gun fired 43.11 Inch Shells, 1 Gun 82.8 Inch Shells & the other fired 80 Balls . In all 205 shots. I went on shore the next day (yesterday) but did not learn any particulars - mostly rumors & they not reliable. The dead had mostly been buried & they were taking care of the wounded that had been found. The woods were so near that the Rebel troops soon escaped & it is not now known whether they are on the Island or not. There is another fort at the other end of the Island - 15 miles distant. The Island north or point opposite this is where we expect to Land & yet it may not be so. It is about 5 miles across from point to point.

This is indeed a success & one that has not cast much blood on our side (at least). South Carolina must feel this blow. Her paper which men found in Camp said we could not take these points. They knew all about our Expedition, every particular. Is it not too bad that we cannot make a move but they must know all about it. Where are all these well informed Traitors? There lays their strength & our weakness.

Our Navy did well, being between two fires at a time. I have more confidence than ever in the Navy.

I will remit to you as soon as possible. Will the Government pay for my horse & saddle?

Hope this will find you well & in active service.

Your cousin truly
E.W. Woodman

Brig. Gen Howard

1492 11/10/1861 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dearest wife [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1446

Source: Bowdoin

Head Qrs. 1st Brigade
Casey's
Division

[435]

Head Qrs. 1st Brigade Casey's
Division Novr 10th 1861

My dearest wife

I am going to take time and give you a little more lengthy account of our expedition to the lower counties of Maryland than I did in my last letters. I was sent for, to go to Washington on Saturday a week ago. I rode in, in a heavy rain, went to Genl Casey's Head Quarters & received orders to move my Brigade into the Lower Counties, Pr. George & Calvert. I was instructed to report to Genl Marcy for further orders, which I did. Genl Marcy told me to take my Brigade to that quarter, consult with Union men and do what I could to prevent an obstruction of the polls. I called to see Hillhouse, took a cup of tea at Mrs Pools, sent John to buy an India rubber coat, returned to Camp, prepared the order of march and got ready for the next day.

It cleared off before morning, Sunday, but the "Eastern Branch" which flows between camp & Bladensburg had risen so much that it was ten rods across & when I attempted to cross over I had to swim my horse & get pretty coolly wet. We managed to cross the infantry over the rail road bridge & back by a foot path bridge into the town.

A Squadron of Cavalry which was assigned the day before was with me. These with the wagons were able to ford the stream by ten a.m. We continued the march till sunset making about 14 miles, and bivouaced at Centreville Md. without tents in an extensive piece of woods. The roads were muddy & slippery with the clay & the troops were tired, but some of them made havoc of a widow ladies fence to make a fire to warm their feet. I immediately put an officer of the 4th Rhode Island in arrest. This had the desired effect. I didn't hear any more of burning the fences. The 36th Pennsylvanian Regt Col Mills started from Good Hope & joined us at Centreville. The next day his regiment with two Comps of the N. Hampshire 5th 30 Cavalry (men) were left at Upper Marlborough, with orders to send two companies to Nottingham & vicinity - one to Queen Ann & one to Piscataway. At Daylight on Monday we were up & making ready to march when Genl Sykes with another Brigade just ahead, delayed us a little, but by ½ past six a.m. the Brigade was in motion. In six miles we came to the village of Upper Marlborough. Quite a pretty little town about 3 miles from the Patuxent, with a Court house one or two churches & one or two taverns. This place is full of that kind of secessionist who cry peace when there is no peace. I found a few good union men here and left Col Miller to consult with them. We passed on to the river Patuxent, found a part of the Bridge carried away. Delayed two hours for its repair, took advantage of the time to feed men & horses & then completed our march, making for the day the forced march of 27 miles.

Before dark with the Cavalry I came upon a large & beautiful estate owned by Mr Thomas J. Graham. And you never saw such generous hospitality as I met at his hands. Mrs Graham had one child just the age & look of our little Jamie. In these large plantations a generous soul like Mr Graham knows how to make one happy. Mrs Graham cooperated fully in this with her husband. Capt Sewall, Dr Palmer & I stayed from Monday night till Friday morning at this delightful place. All the rest of the brigade besides what was left at Upper Marlborough went into Mr Grahams woods, that Monday night. Tuesday I sent one regiment Col Rodman's Rhode Island to the village of Lower Marlborough. Col Welch's 13 miles to Prince Frederick & Major Wetherill of the Cavalry with a hundred of his own & 50 of Col Welch's 45 Pennsylvania to St Leonard's, 26 miles. Wednesday morning every voting place in Pr. George & Calvert Counties was occupied by troops. We made several arrests. One man Mr Sollers at Pr Frederick was formerly a member of Congress. He behaved in the worst violent manner, threatening to kill any Union man he could & striking to the right & left with his bowie knife. Col Welch arrested him & brought him with four more of a like stamp to Lower Marlborough. Mr Sollers was taken ill with the gout & unable to move when I left Friday morning, but is under solemn promise to make his appearance at Washington as soon as he can. The others I released on their taking the "oath of allegiance" & promise never to fight against our forces, & also receiving their word of honor that they never had. Col. Miller brought in one in secession dress, whom he turned over to the Provost Marshall at Washington. On Thursday the forces were

concentrated & Friday & Saturday returned to their old grounds.

Today I learned that the first Michigan Regt. was detached from me, so that I now have but four Regiments. We have had rather a sad day today - two deceased from the 1st Mich., two from the 45 Penn., & one from the New Hampshire. Miss Carroll in her carriage with her Mother visited me tonight & asked me to go to Washington to dine with them tomorrow.

Last night I went in after dark to carry my report, went to see Genl Casey who commended me highly for my promptitude & faithfulness. I visited Mr & Mrs Farwell, and saw their sweet little daughter. I got several kisses, tell Gracie. She says "I got a papa", "I got a papa". Think Gracie has? I hope Guy is'nt jealous of little sister because she loves papa. Papa wants all the love his children can spare him & that it is just enough to keep him warm these cold nights in a tent.

I went to a prayer meeting tonight in the New Hampshire Regiment. I do wish Charlie would get a commission so that I can appoint him my aid. I have one aid a Mr Miles of the 22nd Mass. Regt. an acting aid Mr Scudder of the 45th Penn. Quartermaster Barker, but Owen has been appointed & I expect to get him. Commissary Lt. Balloch & surgeon Dr Palmer.

Mr Farwell says I can have his house the 1st of March or April as I choose. Shall I engage it? Very much love to all, many kisses to the children. I do hope poor Jamie is over the scarlet fever.

Yr own
Otis

1493 11/12/1861 *From:* C.H. Howard]

To: My dear brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-1447

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[436]

Augusta Nov. 12 1861

My dear brother

I returned today to this city & found that the letter I wrote the day before I left was not mailed. I will send it with this.

I saw the Governor today but he had not heard from Washington. I am convinced that it is of no use to wait for him. He has no intention of commissioning me in connection with one of the new Regts. He suggested to day as he has before that I go out & get put in a vacancy of the 3d Maine & then get transferred. If there is any vacancy there & this can be done I hope it may be soon. I do not think I better bother with the Gov. any longer here.

Couldn't you possibly get me a commission from the President? If you told him plainly your desire & the difficulty of my being appointed from any company I thought he might be willing to commission me in same way as Mr. Sewall. Perhaps it is not practicable. You will know.

Rowland seems to think you might take this course. The recent order about musicians who do not act as such gives me a chance of a discharge from the 3d Me.

I neither desire to be discharged nor to go back from this duty unless it be to join you.

I am, however, very much hampered now that I am under Wiggin & cannot recruit on my own hook.

I wish I might join you immediately if I am going to do so. Isn't there a vacancy in your Regts into which I could be transferred & then appointed, if I could get a commission in the 3d Me.? If so please to write me immediately also how I am to be relieved from this duty & how the transfer is to be made.

I have been feeling some anxiety about the children but Joshua came in from Leeds Sabbath P.M. & heard nothing but that Grace & Jamie were doing well. Guy & Lizzie had got well when I left. I have lots to tell you but hope to communicate it soon viva voce [orally].

I await an immediate reply.

Very affectionately
C.H. Howard

1494 11/15/1861 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dearest wife [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1448

Head Qrs 1st Brigade

Source: Bowdoin

[437]

Head Qrs 1st Brigade
Novr 15th 1861

My dearest wife

I wish to write you a few lines just to say that all is well with me.

Yesterday I went over the river to my old regiment crossing by the ferry & returning by the long bridge making in all a distance of twenty seven miles. You cant think how the distances stretch out in this country. Monday evening by invitation I went in to Washington & took tea & staid all night coming out in the first train Tuesday morning. I found Mrs Carroll very well & anxiously inquiring about you & the children. She sends love & so does Mr C. Mrs Carroll is expecting Susan. I believe it will do me good even to see Susan. Mrs C. says her heart is almost broken at the loss of you & the children. Poor child she never realized her privileges while she had them as she cant now. Mrs Sampson sends her love & makes many inquiries about you & the children. She is now the only female with the 3d Maine. Has her tent close by her husbands. Keeps warm by one of our under ground furnaces, such as the soldiers improvise.

Col Staples inquired about you, when I heard & how you did. I cant help feeling anxious about Jamie, as he cant talk & tell when his little ears are sore. I hope Guy & Gracie are all well. Papa cant tell how much he wishes to see them. Mrs Sampson said it was much worse & hard for Mrs Howard than for me. I told her, it was'nt so, for Mrs Howard has the children to console her.

I heard that Charles had 42 men & when he gets 50 he is coming back. John Keen had this information just from home. I did not say anything to you about money the last month. I am sorry I neglected it. I sold one of my horses to Warren Woodman for which he gave me his note. I bought another of Capt Hillhouse for which I paid the cash. I had also to buy my epaulettes & establish a new mess - all of which absorbed my last months pay. At the end of the next, I mean this month I shall make you a remittance. I saw your name in the papers. I have applied for Charlie to be detailed & also John to me but I don't know as the War Department can grant me such a great favor. I have been in hopes the Governor of Maine would commission Charlie but he has not yet done so.

When I was promoted I was separated from Maine troops and perhaps the Governor thinks I have got enough, but surely Charlie deserves a commission on his own account. There is now considerable sickness with us, last night there were three deaths in the Brigade. Typhoid fever prevails to a sad extent.

Are you knitting stockings? Mrs Sampson gave me a flannel night gown yesterday so long that it drags on the ground. Much love to the children & many kisses from papa. Also to Father & mother. When are you going to Aunt Sarah's.

Here are some pictures of papa's manufacture for Guy & Gracie to study out.

Affectionately
Otis.

1495 11/16/1861 *From:* Fred Elliot

To: Brig Gen O O Howard

OOH-1449

Camp Howard

Source: Bowdoin

[438]

Camp Howard November 16th 1861

Brig Gen O O Howard

Dr Sir:

Perhaps you may be surprised at my writing to you, but judging of your character and kind-heartedness from personal observation, I have presumed to address you this letter.

In your position as Commander of a Brigade I know there are many offices in your power to give, or at least it is in your power to recommend, and believing that you know me very well and are aware of the sort of qualifications I possess, I write this to ask you if you cannot assist me in obtaining some office, (such as Quarter Master of a regiment) under your command. I have had some experience in the business and think I can perform all the duties faithfully and honestly which may be required.

I am not dissatisfied with the 3rd Maine, on the contrary I like the Regiment much, but I have come to the conclusion that there is no chance for further advancement in it for myself, and of course I am anxious to raise higher than my present position. Excuse me, Gen., if I have presumed, too far on your generosity, or have deviated from the line of etiquette and respect due an officer in your position, as I really meant no infringement on military law and discipline.

If it is not in your power to do anything for me, I think I shall apply for a transfer to the Navy.

Should it be convenient for you, you would much oblige if you would do me the honor of writing me your views on this subject.

I am Sir

Most respectfully

Yours Truly

Fred Elliot

Brig. Gen. O.O. Howard

Comdg Brig

My respects to Capt. Sewall and tell him I received the note I gave him.

[Written on the back of the letter in another hand.]

Answered

Elliot

1496 11/18/1861 *From:* W. B. Weeks

To: Brig. Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-1450

Danbury Ct.

U.S. Army
Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[439]

Danbury Ct. Nov 18th 1861

My dear Friend

I've been thinking some time of writing you, and see if you could not assist me in getting some situation, connected with the Army, or in some capacity under your supervision. I am out of employment and have been since the commencement of the hard times. You are acquainted or partly so with my abilities and honesty, any thing you can do for me under the circumstances will always be remembered. I enclose a stamp, please answer.

Resp: Your Friend
W. B. Weeks

To:
Brig. Genl O.O. Howard
U.S. Army
Washington D.C.

P.S. Quartermaster clerkship or any other, steward or any thing else you think could do.
W.B.W.

[Written in another hand on the back of the letter]
WB Weeks
Danbury Ct.
Answered

1497 11/20/1861 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dearest Lizzie
[Howard]

OOH-1451

Source: Bowdoin

Hd. Qrs 1st Brigade
Casey's Divn near
Bladensburg

[449]

Hd. Qrs 1st Brigade
Casey's Divn near Bladensburg
November 20th 1861

My dearest Lizzie

I put off writing you last night because I felt tired, and tonight I might do so again, but I know you must often write me when you are tired & the thought makes me feel ashamed to offer weariness as a reason of delay. I have not heard from you for a long time. Some irregularity in the Post Office department or my own change of position has prevented me from getting my letters.

Yesterday one of my Regiments the 45th Pennsylvania was detached & sent to Fortress Monroe, and also yesterday Genl Casey reviewed & drilled the part of my Brigade left here. His wife & daughter & another lady accompanied him from Washington. Mrs Casey has just joined her husband. She is quite infirm. Her daughter is a young lady of 18 or 20 yrs. His son a lad of 13 rode the general's horse out for him. I thought last night I should like to see my family here but on reflection concluded that you & the little ones are better there, as long as at any rate as I have no surety of remaining a day in position.

I have taken the house which the sick of Genl Hookers Divn have at last vacated. It is a nice two story Gentleman's house, but had been with its surrounding's been rendered very filthy. We had it cleaned & fumigated. Capt Sewall & I occupy two rooms with folding doors between, for office & quarters. The Dr a room up stairs, also Capt Barker & Lt. Balloch Qr. Master, & Commissary two rooms up stairs. Lt. Miles the aid has a little room downstairs. Lieut Miles I appointed from the 22nd Mass. Regt. He is a fine looking officer about 21 or 22 yrs. with good military bearing, modest & a Christian. He appears & looks a good deal like Vincent, only taller with a deeper voice. I need not say I am highly pleased with him. Capt Barker is from Portland - 54 years of age. I wanted Wm H. Owen, but though the Secretary of War ordered him to me, I have not been able to get him. But Capt. Barker does very well, seems active & good hearted. His clerk is a civilian, Edwards of Portland, cousin to John Edwards of the Army.

I have been to see my old regiment since I wrote you. Mrs Sampson is full of kind messages. She is now the only lady, with her tent snuggled close to her husbands. Tell mother that Benjamin Woodman [Note 1], son of Ben Woodman that we saw at Cousin Henry Wingate's the night of my leaving Hallowell, was taken with typhoid fever & died within seven days delirious all the time. He was a <blunt>, honest boy. I met him in perfect health only a short time before at the War Department at Washington. He used to drive a team of four horses & government wagon.

What shall I say to Guy! I made a rough plan of my quarters, with some of the details, also a sketch of our camp. Sent all to Uncle Rowland. He must send them to Guy. Grace can look at the pictures of papa's fireplace, boots & sword &c. If Uncle don't send them, papa must make even more. How is our little chubby boy, Jamie, who has forgotten his papa. Kiss his little cheeks & lips for papa. Guy & Grace can do it & they must kiss Mamma for papa too.

I still keep Charles' place open, hoping he may yet have a commission.

I went to Good Hope today & drilled Col Weillars 36 Penn. Regt. today. He has to go nearly two miles further on to get a place to drill & gives me a ride out & back of over twenty miles.

I had a little cold but am otherwise well. I hope you are the same my darling. May God bless you.
Otis

Much love to Charlie, father & mother. My kind regards to Isabella.

[Note 1: Benjamin Woodman was born 25 Jan 1837, died 11 Nov 1861, was the son of Capt Benjamin Woodman, Jr. and Joanna Leadbetter.]

1498 11/21/1861 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: Dearest [OO Howard]

OOH-1452

Leeds, Me.

Source: Bowdoin

[442]

Leeds, Me. Nov. 21, 1861

Dearest

I wonder how soon you will take this out of your pocket, where I intend to put it. I dread to part with Charlie. I want him to be with you, and I know he must go, but it will be another trial.

I wrote the above last evening and have no time to write more this morning.

May God bless and take care of you.

Your own
Lizzie

1499 11/21/1861 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: My dearest Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-1453

Leeds Me.

Source: Bowdoin

[441]

Leeds Me. Nov 21, 1861

My dearest Otis

I received your last letter just as I was finishing a letter to Mrs Sampson, so I could mention it, and thank her for the wrapper she gave you. I can't help feeling very anxious about you while surrounded as you are with so many cases of Typhoid-fever. I don't want you to have it, so do please for my sake, dearest, take just as good care of yourself as you possibly can. All the children just recovering from sickness it seems same as it did last winter when we lived with the Carrolls, and I cant bear to even think we may have any more sickness at present, and particularly you so far away and in a tent. Why do you not take quarters in some house near by? Guy says, "Why don't papa live in a house? I thought all Brig. Genls did. Col Sedgewick did." How much like Mrs Carroll to visit you. You must give her my best love. So Susan is still with Mrs S. S. Carroll. I take it they are intending to visit Washington and take Susan with them.

Jamie is better than when I last wrote, but I don't like to see Grace look so pale. I fear her blood is poor, any time of day that I take off her boots and stockings I find her feet like ice. She seems happy when at play. A change may be of benefit to her.

I would like to go to Auburn Saturday but may not till Monday. You may direct all letters there after you receive this. Charlie and Dellie were home to take Thanksgiving dinner with us to-day, also Roland's family, Warren Morse and daughter.

I forgot to tell you that Jamie can walk. He is very happy about it, still remembers and likes Uncle Charlie little better than the rest. Don't you think he inherited that from his Mother(?) Charlie goes to Augusta to-morrow. He will take to you your things I have to send. I never should think of or expect money if you did not speak of it. I have great plenty now. I am always glad to have you speak of buying things for yourself as rubber coat. My freight bill was little more than forty dollars. I think after I go to Auburn I shall send quite a little present here of different things. So you saw the name of Mrs B. G. Howard in the papers. I am sorry, and am sorry it was put in unless it did some good to encourage others to do something. I never should have dared to have made the offer if I could have known it would be.

Guy was very much amused at the "pictures of voting" you sent. He has put himself in the position of all of them, even to the man on his back, but thinks it would be pretty hard to keep that position, (his head and feet raised a little). He is writing or rather printing a letter to Susan. I have'nt heard from West Point since I left. I must write to Mrs Blunt.

I think Charlie will give you the next news after you get this letter, if he goes as soon as next Wednesday. You will find a note with the things if you look sharp enough. I am glad Charlie has been home so long, but I have'nt seen him much seems to me. He has been a sort of connecting link between us and now he is to be taken back. I don't know how I shall feel about it. I want him to take care of you.

I have written this since I came into my room. Children all sleeping soundly. I am waiting and writing till Jamie wakes so I can take him to Isabella. Charlie had a pleasant visit at Mrs Sewalls when he was at Bath.

Good night now, dearest. Your
Lizzie

1500 11/22/1861 *From:* C.H. Howard

To: Dear Brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-1454

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[443]

Leeds Nov. 22 1861

Friday Morn

Dear Brother

I go to Augusta this morn and expect to go to Washington as soon as Wed. next.

I hear from the papers that Capt. Sampson is made Maj. There would be a vacancy in his Co. and the Gov. said he would commission me in the Third Maine. Colson Co C. also has resigned.

Wish I knew certainly that I could be transferred after getting a commission to some vacancy in your Brigade or if not transferred, could have the assurance that my place could be filled when appointed on your staff.

If you can arrange these matters with Col Staples perhaps he will request a commission from Gov. W.

I expect to go directly to the Third Me. and will do what I can.

You need not have troubled to get my transfer in my present capacity for I can be discharged from the 3d according to a recent order about musicians & then I can reenlist with you if for the best.

Affectionately
C.H. Howard

P.S.
Children & all well & very happy.
C.H.H.

1501 11/22/1861 *From:* F.S. Nickerson

To: Brig. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-1455

Head Quarters 4th Me

Near Washington

Source: Bowdoin

[444]

Head Quarters 4th Me
Nov. 22, 1861

My Dear Genl,

After some hesitation I have concluded to accept the Colonelcy of the 14th. It is now more than half recruited, & will go into camp next week. It will be ready for the field about the 1st Jany.

I should like very much to go into your Brigade, if you can so arrange it.

The appointment was unexpected as it came. I did not expect one of the new Regts. It is certainly very kind in the Governor; and I suspect I am quite as much endebedted to you as him. I will endeavour that you shall not suffer thereby.

I have taken good care while in Maine that you should suffer nothing by the disappointment of others.

Any suggestions, I should be most happy to receive. Do you know of the right kind of a young man for Adj. - Smart well parted in his duties &c. I have applications enough - but you know what I need.

The men will be good. The class of men now enlisting are far better than the earlier enlistments. It will be a fine Regt. & I should like to be in your Brigade.

Truly &c
F.S. Nickerson

Brig. Genl. O.O. Howard
Near Washington

Please give your address. Mine will be with the 4th for ten days at least.

[Written on the back page in a different hand.]

Answered
Nickerson

1502 11/23/1861 *From:* F.B. Gilman

To: Dear Howard [RB
Howard]

OOH-1456

Portland

Source: Bowdoin

[445]

Revival letter from Frank Gilman [This was written by R.B. Howard]

Portland Nov. 23 1861

Dear Howard [Rowland Bailey Howard]

I started from home earlier than usual this afternoon to come down & write to you & queerly enough thought on my way that it was possible I should get a letter from you but hoped not for I wanted the credit of writing without a reminder. Sure enough the letter was waiting for me & <found> a welcome. So I am all charged for a long letter & really have my heart free of things new & old & some good things to tell you, but shall not succeed this afternoon in putting it upon paper.

We are having such an unusual series of meetings in our church that we hardly have recovered from our astonishment at being roused from sleep in such an unwanted manner & half of our members are not yet fully sensible of what is going on - some even are still sleeping. May Gods spirit soon convince them that He is speaking to them as well as to sinners.

You ask if I see or feel anything of the Revival. I know I see very much of it & hope I feel it. At any rate I have found it a delightful labor for eight successive evenings since Friday of last week to be at our church from seven to ten, half of the time listening to preaching by Mr. H. & others & spending the remainder in talking simply & earnestly to those who come by fifties & even hundreds to the prayer & enquiry meetings.

Dear Howard it has been a week of blessing not only to sinners but to our church members also. I cannot doubt that the Holy Spirit has been with us & that many true conversions attest this work. We cannot as yet measure it or say what has been done but I hope to give you hereafter the result in our own congregation - all the fruit of these precious meetings we shall not know. There have been many strangers, soldiers sailors & others in who have received faithful & affectionate words into their hearts followed by prayers that they might bring them to Christ. They have left us & hereafter we shall meet some of them I hope in heaven.

I wish you could have been here with us. Thinking you might be at Bath Thursday I sent a message by Mr Fisk, who preached for us last Sunday, for you to come up here but you did not receive it. Mr F. entered warmly into our meetings & impressed me as a very lovable man. I enjoyed his preaching very much. I wish you could even now come down for a day or two, for I hope we shall make some arrangement to keep up our evening preaching. This is not decided upon yet. Mr Hammond strongly urges that we should procure preachers & keep them up. He leaves the first of the week preaching only twice more tonight & tomorrow night. I feel as if we must continue these prayer & enquiry meetings.

I could fill sheets with telling you of instances of conversion & of interesting conversations & incidents. Two of my Sabbath school class have been very much interested & one of them gives the most satisfactory evidence of conversion. He is very intelligent & thoughtful & would not be led away by any excitement.

This word reminds me of what seems to me a very sad fact, that many of Gods people in Portland & all the ministers of our denomination except Mr Moore & Dr Caruthers have turned coldly away from Mr Hammond & have no sympathy with the meetings. Why I cannot tell satisfactorily. It is said by some that the Boston clergymen have by letter to Dr Chickering prejudiced him & others. One reason undoubtedly is found in the character of Mr Hammonds preaching & the manner in which he labors, though to my mind it is no excuse at all for Christians who by objecting to these, excuse themselves from taking any interest in meetings where so evidently the Spirit of God is preparing the hearts of the unconverted to receive the good seed of His truth. I can hardly give you a description of Mr H's preaching. In fact he does'nt preach sermons. He talks, earnestly, but without method or arrangement. He opens a meeting perhaps with a short prayer, then takes the bible & reads a few verses & talks & spends perhaps 15 minutes in going over a dozen verses then he may break out

into a familiar hymn in which the children all join him & many of the congregation.

Then a young convert with us through the week, will it not be delightful. It seems to me that he must have great effect upon a class of people who will not come to hear Mr. Hammond. He made a most stirring address tonight, compared prayer with steam & believed that we had but just begun to see its effects as when Watt observed the lifting of the <Hitte> cover & that we should yet see it run the arm that should move the world.

Cant you come down this week Howard & witness for yourself these precious meetings? I should be delighted to have you stop with us, as I know my brother would, & I think you would find such a <field> for a few evenings labor as would do your heart good - do come. The ministers I know will welcome you. I will tell you then perhaps of my visit to Washington. It was a very pleasant journey - was disappointed on calling at Genl Howards quarters to find that he was out of town, having gone to Bladensburg. I was counting upon seeing him considerably for the pleasure of my visit, but was fortunate in finding several pleasant friends.

You will smile at receiving with this mail another production of Mr Walker's. It was published yesterday & I thought you would not be unwilling to read it. Thruston printed it on his own responsibility. It was highly praised by those who heard it but I have only glanced at it & do not know what it is. I enclose a hymn sung tonight & was intending to put in a slip from Saturdays Currier about Mr Howard but do not see it now. I shall not settle for a letter but for "your good self" the mercantile letters have it, & its very soon.

Good night
Yours affectionately
F.B. Gilman

Good news, was it not from the expedition. I have read letters from the fleet enclosing "pieces of the insolent rebel flags that floated over Fts Walker & Beauregard. Excuse if you can such inexcusable writing as I can find no reason for sending or making.

My kind regards to your family.

1503 11/24/1861 *From:* W. H. Owen

To: Dear General [OO
Howard]

OOH-1457

Head Quarters
Sedgewick Brig

Source: Bowdoin

[446]

Head Quarters Sedgewick Brig
Nov. 24 1861

Dear General,

Your kind letter was recd several days since. I would have answered it immediately but understood from Mrs Sampson that you were expected here on Thanksgiving Day when I would see you personally.

We were disappointed in not seeing you when you were here before & had intended to have you to breakfast with us.

Gen. S. desired me to ask you to dine with us on Thanksgiving day but Mrs Sampson protested, so I did not send the invitation.

Please consider the invitation a standing one to yourself & staff. Whenever you come over here we shall expect you to make this your Head Quarters.

I was somewhat surprised at your ill-success with Gen Van Vliet with regard to my assignment after what had transpired between you & the Q. M. General. Though at first disposed to regret it on many accounts, yet, like everything else, it was undoubtedly for the best. One of the proofs of it is that my brother has lately been quite seriously ill & I was enabled to remove him from his narrow & comfortless quarters to my more commodious tent where he could receive every attention. And in the course of the war it is very probable that by reason of my position I shall be able to render him still more important service.

Yet with all this I cannot banish a regret at the overthrow of plans I had formed & confidently reckoned on - and I cannot help still hoping that the fortunes of war may, in some way, throw us together again.

You may be sure I shall never forget your kindness or what I owe to you & that I shall study to deserve & repay it.

I trust that your Qr. Mr. has turned out better than you expected & that you will suffer no inconvenience from your failure to obtain the man of your choice.

Present my kindest regard to Capt. Sewall.

Very truly your friend
W. H. Owen

1505 11/25/1861 *From:* C.H. Howard

To: My dear Brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-1458

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[447]

Augusta Nov. 25 1861

My dear Brother

I bid adieu to home and the family Friday forenoon. We expect to go on with about 50 men starting Wed. A.M.

I saw Gov. Washburn & Mr. Blaine together in the Gov's room. They see no way to have me commissioned except either by the Gov. of some of the states where troops you have or else in the 3d Me. and then have that Regt transferred to your Brigade. I hear from many sources that they would like to be transferred so I have written to Maj. Samson at the suggestion of Col. Harding who rec'd a letter from Capt. Sewall - to see if I could have a commission in his old Co.

There are several vacancies in the Regt. I am not sure that Col. Staples wishes to be in your Brigade. I don't know about this but I saw Capt Richmond Sat. and he says he would like very much to be transferred & he is confident all the officers would.

All well at home.

In haste. Yr. Affec. Br.

C.H. Howard

1506 11/27/1861 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: My dearest Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-1459

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[449]

Leeds, Nov. 27 1861

Mr dearest Otis

I will write you a short letter this time for I have not time for a lengthy one. I went to the "Circle" this evening, with Col. Gilmore and Mother at Mrs. Lothrops. Her baby waked during the evening, just the age of Jamie, and was brought out. They are about the same size. He was very happy but looked somewhat astonished to see so may people in his house. We returned about half past nine, talked a while in the dining room and I am now writing fifteen minutes before eleven.

I went to Lewiston Monday by the trains and returned in the afternoon train, went to Farmington Tuesday afternoon - took Grace with me. I went directly to Sarah's and I worked nearly all the evening, with a man to assist me, opening boxes and taking out things I needed. I wanted my sewing machine most and it was not by itself. I returned this Wednesday morning leaving there quarter before nine so I had no time to see Ella as Rowland had gone to Portland to see Frank Gilman. Sarah is very comfortably fixed but Oh! Dear, she has indeed got her hands full. I don't feel my care to be so great since I have seen her.

Every body seems to know & say I am to have Mr Farwells house. So I suppose I am. I mean by every body, the people of Farmington.

Isabella goes away to School to-morrow. I shall miss her some at first. I did leave Jamie at home, and she got along very nicely with him. I wanted all these journeys over before I lost her.

I shall be here a while longer. Mother wants me to remain 'till after the first box is packed and sent to the soldiers. I wonder when they the things and sacks are the most needed. Most are directing to the "Maine Vols" and I think that a very good way for them to get there, through the "Sanitary Com."

I am too sleepy to write. Charlie did not leave Augusta today, waiting for Maj. Eastman to get back from New Ham. I don't like to hear you have a cold. I don't know why, but I do really see no way but that you will join some expedition by water south. Why are you at Bladensburg, not guarding the R.R.?

Good night now darling. Best love from your
Lizzie

1507 11/29/1861 *From:* Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: Dear Bro. Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-1461

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

[452]

Farmington Nov. 29/61

Dear Bro. Otis

I send this letter [Note 1] because it will give you a better idea of the work of grace in progress in Portland than anything I can write in the time at my disposal. I went down to P. Tues. & returned Thursday, & witnessed repetitions of that Sunday night scene. Dr. Kirk preached as if his inspiration was direct from the throne & the Enquiry meetings were such as would have delighted your heart. I did not know how low, cold, backslidden I was till I got there. I tried to converse with inquirers some & would have staid longer had not my duties here recalled me. I saw proud fashionable women weeping like children. Dr Kirk & indeed we all would kneel right down in the pews & pray with the distressed souls.

I bad Charles good bye on the train. Lizzie was up Tuesday but stopped at Sarahs to look into her goods stored there. Ella & baby are well. Thank you for your letter & the plan of your encampment. Farwell writes me that he has seen you since you wrote. Charles will be with you tomorrow. He must go out to the 3d Reg. with his men & be careful to redeem all his promises to them & do all they could reasonably expect. His Christian reputation would be involved in their disappointment & I should feel personally grieved if Col. Staples & he do not do well by them.

The prepare of Sermon making prevents my writing more now, but I hope I will hear from you often. How about your Staff. Send a list. Give much Christian love to Maj. Sewall. Tell him it seems now in Portland as it did in Bath in 1858.

Yr. aff. Brother
Rowland

[Note 1: The letter referred to here is probably the letter from Frank Gilman to Rowland dated 23 Nov 1861, which Rowland enclosed with his.]