
1534 1/1/1862

From: I. Washburn, Jr.

To: Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-1492

State of Maine
Executive Department
Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[3]

[Letterhead]
State of Maine
Executive Department

Augusta Jan'y 1 1862

Dear General,

I have just rec'd your letter, & hasten to express my sincere regret that I should have been the instrument of giving you a moments pain. I felt it to be my duty to you to tell you frankly & truly what I had heard, & heard of. I may have erred - I don't know. But knowing the efforts which had been made (& by whom) in favor of Genl Berry, I did not think it advisable that I should attempt to raise an issue between yourself & Genl B. I therefore spoke in terms of praise, as I conscientiously could, of both, & removed as I believe an unfounded impression in regard to yourself which I feared might injure your prospects if not removed. I not only asserted your right to be Maj. Genl, but visited upon the country's need of you as such.

Nevertheless, it is true I did not subordinate Genl B. to Genl. H. Rather, under the circumstances, I thought such course would help neither, but harm both.

General, I wish you a Happy New Year! I may not write you again during my official term, and I must not go out of office without expressing my earnest thanks for your many kindnesses, with my warmest wishes for your health & happiness.

Yours truly,
I. Washburn, Jr

Genl O.O. Howard

1535 1/1/1862

From: L. Prang & Co.

To: Dear Sir [OO Howard]

OOH-1493

Source: Bowdoin

34 Merchants Row,
Boston, Mass.
520 7th St.,
Washington, D.C.

[4]

Dear Sir:-

We are about to publish a Biographical Work under the title of "The Union Generals" to be illustrated with a large number of line-engraved portraits of the Generals engaged in the present War for the Union. The Book, in neat pocket form, well bound and to be sold at a low price, will be issued in a few weeks.

We beg leave to solicit from you, for this object, a brief sketch of your life, comprising some dates, such as those of your birth, graduation, marriage and various appointments, promotions and other important events - especially those relating to your participation in this War. We expect this book will be sold extensively to the troops engaged in our sacred cause, and trust their zeal, patriotism and energetic support of their worthy leaders may be, if possible, somewhat enhanced thereby.

Please answer immediately, and say whether we may have the sketch from your hand, or, if not, how otherwise it may be obtained. What you can write impromptu in an hour even, if no more, will be most acceptable and will be very gratefully acknowledged by presenting to you a copy of our book with abundant thanks and whatever else you may require in our line.

Respectfully Your Most Obt. Servts.,
L. Prang & Co.

34 Merchants Row, Boston, Mass.
520 7th St., Washington, D.C.
Jan. 1, 1862

1536 1/1/1862

From: Silas S Cummings

To: Brigadier Gen. Howard

OOH-1494

Pascoag Post Office, RI

Source: Bowdoin

[5]

Brigadier Gen. Howard
Respected Sir,

This communication you will perceive, is from an entire stranger, but nevertheless I am persuaded that your Christian urbanity will induce you to regard its content favorably. I have long felt, and still feel anxious, to do more for the salvation of our beloved country, than I can possibly do in my present position, and I should have been in the volunteer ranks in this, had it not been for the solemn conviction of duty to devote my time and influence to the moral and spiritual interest of mankind. To this work God has called me, and I do not feel at liberty, or should be justified in leaving the work of the Ministry. Ever since the war commenced, my sympathies and interests have been deeply solicited in behalf of our army, I anxiously desire to identify myself with the army not for the immunities of the office, but for the works sake, that I may employ my time and capacities for the promotion of the moral character of our brethren and friends that have left home, with all of its sabbath church going privileges to save our country from rebel fever. I have given my son to the cause, a youth of but 18 years, of a pure christian character. He is in the 4th Regt, R.I.V, connected with your Brigade.

The last 31 years of my life have been devoted exclusively to the work of the Ministry in the Methodist Episcopal Church. 14 years of that time in the Maine Conference, my native state, the remainder in the N.H. and Providence conferences. My present connection is with the Providence Conference of the M.E. Church, and am Pastor of a church in Burrillville R.I.

Some of my brethren have frequently said that I ought to go into the army, that my familiar tone, and social capacities were well adapted for usefulness in the capacity of a chaplain. But I have kept the fire concealed, and convictions of duty hidden as much as possible, until within a few weeks I have finally decided to solicit a chaplain's berth. I wrote to Gen. Sumner a few weeks since to know if there were any Regiments in his division without a Chaplain. I have since learned that he had been disabled, and that his division was under your command. I think I have been informed that the appointment of the Chaplain was with the officers of the respective Regiments.

Now General Howard, if it would be your pleasure, to ascertain if there are any Regiments under your command, without a Chaplain, and if so, to present my wishes to those whose duty it is to make such appointments, you will confer a favor upon your correspondent.

I should be happy to serve any Regiment to the best of my abilities, and can be prepared to report myself at camp within two weeks after being notified, or in less time if desirable. My age is 47 and health good. Any recommendations requisite can be furnished, when notified what is required. I would refer you to Major J. Allen, Quartermaster Smith of the 4th Reg. R.I.V whose brief acquaintance I have formed.

Your humble Servant
Silas S Cummings
Pascoag Post Office R.I.
Jan 1st 1862

[Written in another hand]
Answered

1537 1/2/1862

From: A. Full [Americus
Fuller]
Bangor

To: My Dear [CH] Howard

OOH-1495

Source: Bowdoin

[285]

Bangor Jan 2nd 1862

My Dear [CH] Howard

Yours of the 28 ult. is at hand. That trunk shall be disposed of as you request & as soon as I get a chance to do it. If I had got your letter a week earlier I would have done it at once; for I was out that way & as it was, was half inclined to go to Jay (not to speak of anything beyond there) but did not. Another time I shall be sure to go through & will take your trunk w. me.

My business out that way was to preach at Bath. Had a very good day there stopped at Dr. Putnams close by Capt Patten's but did not call there. Ed. Reed & his sisters came in & spent the evening Saturday at the Drs. & we had a very nice time. Saw also lots of Bowdoin boys & among the rest John Weeks came into church in the P.M. Monday morning I called on him but he had just started for N.Y. - so said his mother - so I did not get a chance to speak to him. They have no regular minister there now but are talking of settling a Mr. Dwight nephew to the Dr. If they do not, possibly I may go out there again.

From Bath I went up to Lewiston to see Sis. This was the first time I have seen her since her conversion. You may judge how much pleasure I enjoyed with her. She is very happy & has a clear evidence I think of her hope.

On my way back I had some two hours at Brunswick which I spent in calling upon my old boarding-mistress & Miss Jewitt Grigg. Her father has the same old spider-in-his-net-look that he used to wear. As it was vacation time I saw none of the students & only Prof. Smyth of the faculty. He was as full as his grimaces & kinks as ever.

On my way from there the cars got so delayed that there was no hope of making a connection at Kendalls Mill, so I took occasion to stop at Augusta to see the sights & make some calls. Fell in with Capt. Stevens & he showed me around through the 13th encampment - & I got a chance to see something of the Cavalry &c&c. So on the whole I made quite an excursion of it. Last sab. I was down to Orland & saw that Miss Buck. She is looking very well indeed as though she might be good for another waltz.

New Years day (& by the way I wish you a happy New Year) was celebrated here with the usual ceremonies. They had a surprise party at Mr. Wheelwrights but I had such a cold that I could not go. I heard that they had a very pleasant party of some 30 or 40 persons.

Matters here at the Sem move on nearly as usual. The older Harlow has just lost his affianced - a Miss Phillips of Orrington a sister I believe of the Phillips we knew in college class of '58 & by the way have you heard that Sam. King is dead. He died at Augusta some four weeks ago after a sickness of some two weeks. His disease was Hemorrhage at the lungs caused by over work in the Ajt. Genls office. I have seen no particulars of his death & only heard of it by the way & a fortnight after it took place. As for that furniture I see by my book that the half of what we own in common (including saw, broom, &c wh we bot) was valued at about ten dollars. I shall pretty nearly use up the carpet this year so I will sell you my half of the things (Bookcase, Beaureau, tables & cover, carpet, saw, pails bowl mirror lounge &c &c) for five dollars or if you prefer I will buy your things at this rate & pay you besides for the use of them for this year.

We are having one of the roughest days of the season.

Ben Pond was married about a fortnight ago & has now gone to his parish in Vt.

I am glad that affair of the Treaty is settled aren't you? Do you think England wants to quarrel with us?

Very Truly Yrs

A. Full [Americus Fuller]

1538 1/2/1862 *From:* Susan [Key]

To: My darling Guy [Howard]

OOH-1496

Washington

Source: Bowdoin

[6]

Washington Jany 2d 1862

My darling Guy

I suppose you think I am very unkind for not answering your very welcome and long expected letter before now. But you must not think so for I have been very busy since I came here. I presume your Papa has told you in some of his letters of my being in Washington. I was not at West Point when I got it. I was here some time. I had given up expecting a letter from you when I got it and I know Guy you would write very often to me if you had any idea what pleasure it gives me to get a letter from my darling little Guy.

I was speaking once only to your Papa since I came, he talked a great deal about you and said he would like to see you very much. I wish you were in Washington now Guy while I am here. You and I would have such a nice time together. I think of you very often and also of Grace and that dear little rogue Jamey. I was glad to hear he had not forgotten some of his West Point tricks. I should like very much to see him clean his nose in a handkerchief. He will forget Susan but I trust you won't and as for Grace I know you will speak often of me to her so she will remember too. Your Papa read your letter and laughed when he read about Jamey. I hope I shall see him soon again.

Guy while I was speaking to your Papa I forget were I am and think I am on West Point again. <P> is very well and has grown a great deal - stouter than he was. You cant think what a big fat Papa you got now. I am living with Katey's Grandmamma now and not with her Mamma. They are both here yet but I think will be going away very soon. Please ask your Mamma to let me have your pictures as soon as it is convenient. Katey's grandmother sends her love to all of you. Guy kiss Grace and Jamey for me and remember me to your Mamma and Grandmamma. I hope you will write to me very soon again as I shall be anxiously expecting to hear from you.

Good by and I trust you will ever remember
Susan [Carroll]

Address,
Care W. T. Carroll Esqr
Clerk of Surpreme Court
Washington
D.C.

1539 1/3/1862

From: Lizzie [Howard]

To: My dearest Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-1497

Auburn

Source: Bowdoin

[7]

Auburn Jan 3, 1862

My dearest Otis

I was very happy to get a letter from you this evening, but the first line gave me quite a start. That "this is probably the last letter I shall write you this year". I imagined you about to join some expedition or <such>. I generally take my letters, see if the address is in your handwriting, tear open the envelope and begin reading the first line without looking at the date, and even sometimes not stopping to see if it is addressed to me: this was the case to-night. My heart was comparatively at rest as soon as I read the next sentence.

I am sorry I wrote you about Guy now, for he is already very well, goes out to slide and don't seem to mind the cold. Cousin Fanny is quite a favorite and he visits her often and Aunt Betsy.

How do you think I get my mail? Guy goes to the P.O. every afternoon at half past three (just after the cars get here) and to the Book store, which is next door to the P.O. for the daily paper (Boston Journal). I was out with him one day and waited on the side walk while he crossed the street and went into the P. Office alone. I wanted to see how he asked and what he would do. Soon I heard his little voice "any letters for Mrs O.O. Howard?" He soon came out not seeing me. I had walked on a few steps. He called, "Mama, where are you. I have got one for myself." It was from Uncle Rowland describing the Christmas tree.

Fanny, Grace, Guy and I went out together one afternoon. I wanted to get him an overcoat, tried for one ready made but couldn't, and finally had him measured. I shall go for it to-morrow. Grace will have her new hat (brown beaver with feathers and velvet ribbon). They have these because they go to church and need them while here and will need them at Farmington also.

I don't want to tell you but I must what Grace said. "Papa writes Guy all the letters and don't write me any". I reminded her of your answers to hers. "I love papa". But that didn't quite do. Then I told her, I really thought, some day Guy would bring a letter to her, a long letter from papa. She reads in three letters. I took them out day before yesterday and got them both each a book. Guy has his nearly through already.

Jamie is very well. Col. Gilmore stayed here last night on his way home from Portland. Jamie remembered him. I received the "Herald" from Charlie. I think a Lieut in the 61st wrote it. I have seen now no letters from "Howard's Brigade" in the Boston journal since week before last. I have not seen every paper this week though.

You mustn't get home sick, Dearest, when you can't come home. Why, I don't know what I should do if you are going to get down hearted. I have never had any thought of giving up Mr. Farwell's house. I have not said anything about Aunt's going to Farmington with me. Don't know as I would want her to. I will think it over. I will not write more to-night. I have not read the paper and don't know the news, only what Aunt Betsy read aloud. She ran in a moment as Guy came home with the paper. Your ink sketches amuse the children very much. We would be glad to see you home when it is best for you to come. Wish that might not be long.

Your own
Lizzie

1540 1/4/1862

From: L R Browne

To: Friend Howar [OO
Howard]

OOH-1498

Epworth Dubuque Co
Iowa

Source: Bowdoin

[8]

Epworth Dubuque Co Iowa Jan. 4, 1862

Friend Howar-

Was glad to hear from you. Did not know as the Howard of Bull Run was the of W.P. Thought I would test the matter. Sent a line. Recognized the hand write at a glance. I did not intend to give up the ship when I last saw you. Have been very thankful a hundred times that the faculty of the Point came to the conclusion that one Browne was not fit for a Soldier.

Am glad to hear of your good luck & fat babies. Have remained single & think there is a fine Prospect of so remaining for some time yet. Have been urged by many to try for a situation in the Iowa Regiment & believe I could have obtained one easily. Did not wish it. Do not think I shall at any future time but may in the Spring.

These are some things I am quite anxious to know. I am certain you can tell me.

How many of our Class are on the Rebel side & who are they? Please inform me if you can do so without too much trouble. There are some boys from the South so everything one could wish I am gott to believe them with Jeff & Co. Where is J.B. Villepigue, Sawtelle, Mercer, Wade, Treadwell, Davant & in fact all the good fellows with whom we were acquainted in our Class & out of it. If you can find time to tell me I will feel under lasting obligations to you.

Howard, to what gigantic proportions this war has grown. You remember I was a Democrat once. I have acted & worked with the now dominant Party since its existence. Believe this war could have been, ought to have been closed months ago. Some one man or set of men have blundered.

Tell me if compatible with your Position as a Gen, what you think of the future, the probable length of the war &c.

I would like to hear your opinion on this subject.

I thank you for your willingness to assist my Brother if in your power to do so. I do not feel enough acquainted with Slocum to ask a favor.

Please write me so soon as convenient & tell me all about the Boys & oblige your friend.

A Happy New year to you & your family.

Your truly
L R Browne

1542 1/4/1862

From: Charles [CH
Howard]

To: My dear Mother [Eliza
Gilmore]

OOH-1499b

Head Quarters 1st
Brigade Sumners Div
Near Alexandria Va

Source: Bowdoin

[9]

[This letter was appended to the end of Otis' of the same date.]

11 a.m.

Jan. 4, 1862

My dear Mother

I enclose Fifty dollars (\$50) for father's use if he chooses or for your own if you desire it. At any rate I don't care to keep it here & I can send another \$50 in a few days. It might be on interest perhaps. If Father could get a deed of Roland's horse or Thomas' I could certify that I owned one without troubling the conscience of any one. Will father see if he can arrange some thing of the kind. I have directed that my trunk containing long box & such contains father's note be sent to Leeds 1st opportunity.

Very affectionately yr son
Charlie

1541 1/4/1862

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dearest Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

OOH-1499a

Source: Bowdoin

Head Quarters 1st
Brigade Sumners Div
Near Alexandria Va

[9]

Head Quarters 1st
Brigade Sumners Div
Near Alexandria Va
January 4th 1862

My dearest Mother

Charlie has agreed to write Lizzie this morning & I will try to write you. We are both in good health and still in the same place as when I last wrote. On New Years' day we had a very pleasant time in the Rhode Island Regiment, the commissioned officers presenting a sash, pair of shoulder straps & an opera - a reconnoitering - glass to their Colonel. I was present & much pleased with the remarks of the Colonel & Chaplain. I addressed them a few words. The next day they were ordered to Annapolis. They join the Expedition of General Burnside, much to my sorrow, for it was a prime Regiment and a Rhode Island one at that.

Charlie & I went to Washington yesterday and secured the promise of the 64th N. York in the place of the 4th R.I.

We went to see General Casey at a Court Martial & he invited me to dine with him at 3 P.M. Chas. & I went & found Professor Wier & John Wier, Chas. friend. They came on to attend Henry Wier a son of the Professor through an attack of Typhoid fever. Poor fellow. He is very low, but they think now that he will recover. I hope so.

We called upon General Sumner at Washington yesterday. He is still poorly, can just sit up in an easy chair for a few minutes. I hope he will soon be better. General Sumner is a very energetic man, a good soldier. He requires nothing of his men, but he is willing to undergo himself.

Chas & I drew our pay yesterday. He thinks of sending you a portion for deposit.

Give much love to father. I must go to "the Board of Examination". There are so many talking in the front part of my tent that I can hardly write. You must pray for me that my head may be kept right. My kindest regards to all my friends. I had a letter from Lizzie last night.

Affectionately
Otis

[The following letter from Charles to Eliza 1/4/1862 was appended to the end of Otis'.]

1543 1/4/1862

From: Charles

To: My dear Lizzie [Howard]

OOH-1500

Head Quarters 1st
Brigade
Camp California

Source: Bowdoin

[10]

Head Quarters 1st Brigade
Camp California
Jan. 4 1862

My dear Lizzie

I had such a good time in Washington yesterday that I must certainly tell you about it. Otis & I rode over in the morning. We take a straight course now to Long Bridge - go first to Ft. Worth which is just above us to the North on the Crest of the hill, then to the Theol. Seminary which is used as a hospital and where Gen. Kearney has his Hd Qrs. about 1/2 mile further. We pass along by the N.Y. Regt. which the late Col. Jackson of Troy commanded. We pass several other Camps. At one we saw a Bethel tent (But we are going to build a log Chapel). We passed the 5th Maine. By the way Col. Jackson of the 5th called upon us a few days ago with two young gentlemen from Lewiston by name Lockwood. The Col. had just returned from a furlough.

As we rode along Otis complained a little of cold fingers. Before we left Washington last night he got a pair of warm mittens - buck-skin, with one finger which proved effectual to keep out the cold in coming home.

John went with us. We went first to Gen. Casey's H'd Qrs. We had lost our best Regt. the day before - 4th R.I. Burnside had got it detached from us to go with his expedition. Otis was greatly disappointed at this. Col. Rodman came at 1 o'clock A.M. to our tent & said a dispatch by telegraph had reached him ordering him to report immediately at Annapolis. Otis could not sleep much more that night.

But Gen. Casey's Asst. Adjt. Genl told us about the troops remaining at Washington from which we must draw a Regt. to fill the vacancy in our Brigade. We thought somewhat of the 11th Maine but soon we went across the street to see Gen. Casey himself who was president of a Court Martial.

I had never seen the Gen. Before. He looks quite aged. His hair is white & thin. He is a small man, mild and quiet in manners & looks. Otis sat down by him & conversed in a whisper. He seemed glad to see him. The notorious Col. Kerrigan was on trial. He is a remarkable man in his features & personal appearance. You would think him a Poet or Artist. His hair is jet black, his complexion pure. Each feature finely chiseled - a mustache highly cultivated - an eye black & sharp. Forehead not very broad but high. He wore his hair long. Is tall & erect. You will remember, he is also a member of Congress.

Gen. C. decided Otis on having the 64th N.Y. Col. Park and ordered it to report here today. It has been drilled a month or two & yet is comparatively raw. Gen. C. thought this the best. The 11th Me. had 200 sick & besides had just gone into Winter Quarters. Gen. C. invited Otis to dinner at 3 P.M. and to our great joy said that Prof. Weir would be there.

We called upon Gen. Sumner & found him able to sit up. He was very kind in his demeanor toward us. We called upon Lot Morrill, Senator, & then saw his brother Anson P., M.C., & soon Mr Farwell came in. Otis is trying to get Prof. Whittlesey appointed & assigned to him as <commissary>. He has little hope of success tho. Prof. W. said he would come if appointed.

We got to Gen. C's about 3. Mrs C. soon came into the Parlor. She has been paralyzed - I should think had been very beautiful. We found that Henry Weir was very low at Maj. Webb's and to our great surprise & gratification learned that Johnny Weir was in the city. Soon Prof. W. came in & not long after Johnny. He hardly knew me. Miss Casey also about the same time & two other young ladies. Another family share the house with Gen. C. (Mr. Eveleth) Miss Bessie C. is very beautiful - black eyes, black hair & very faultless features - bright & intelligent. Johnny & I had a grand time but he looks pale from constantly watching over Henry & before at the bedside of Verplank. The latter is quite well. Henry is still delirious but they have hope. Johnny will I hope visit us in Camp if his brother recovers.

We left Gen. Casey's about dark. Johnny came along a few doors to Maj. Webb's when we parted. We soon met John with the horses. Went down street & Otis bo't Craighill's work - "Army Officers Pocket Companion" and another little one by Capt. Coppeé "Field Evolutions &c" He bo't also another fine Robe - a little longer than the two he got before, one of which he gave to me. Price the same \$15.00. He presented Capt. Sewall with the mate to mine & retained the one he got last night. The Capt. was highly pleased.

We had a dark night to come back in and it was snowing - a kind of sleet. The first snow we have had since the night I came here. There is less than an inch but it is snowing more vigorously this morning.

The Capt. is loud in his praise of his robe this morning. We took some tea after we got back & Otis found that his new Robe was long enough to cover feet & chin completely so of course had a good sleep. I can't tell you how happy I was to see Johnny. Have you heard about Miss Jeanie Grey's book. She is building a house. Expects to pay for it from the proceeds of the book. Good many doubtful <> among the officers & their wives at West Point.

A Happy Happy New Year to my sister Lizzie & to my little nephews Guy & Jamie & my little niece Grace. John calls for the Genl.

Good bye
Charlie

1544 1/4/1862

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1501

Head Qrs 1st Brigade
Sumner's Division

Source: Bowdoin

[178]

Head Qrs 1st Brigade
Sumner's Division
January 4th 1862

Dearest,

I got a letter from you last night after my or rather our return from Washington, and I was glad on account of it that I came "home". This is a curious place to call home. It was a cheerful letter written after you had gotten the first one of mine directed to Auburn. The one before that spoke of Guy's disposition to dispepsia & of Gracie's run round & of Lizzie's lame back made me fear that the next letter might not be quite so cheerful. I hope you may remain well and keep "young" for it sometimes happens that "sick old men" like me have young wives. I was never in better health than now - in good flesh.

I have the control of that Board of Examination & can consult my convenience as to adjournments. The command of the Division has been devolved on Genl Heintzelman. I think Genl French has no feeling about my ranking him. He is a man of considerable talent & much experience. He always treats me with respect & cordiality.

I feel very sad that Genl Burnside got away from me the 4th R.I. The Chaplain Mr Flanders an Episcopalian was my favorite Chaplain - a most worthy, steady & active Christian. The 61st N.Y. has a good baptist minister but he has gone home with the measles. I should say to convalesce after having partially recovered. The measles & mumps are gradually progressing through the Brigade.

Lieut Miles is just coming down with the former. Aren't you glad I have had them <> Mr. Miles said when I gave your regards to Capt S. & to Charlie tell her it won't do for her to forget me. I hope he will have a good time with the disease. He is a very worthy young man.

I got a paper from Father today & Chas got a long letter from Rowland. He represents it as some sickly at Farmington now, mentions a case of dyptheria. I saw Mr Farwell yesterday but did not have time to go to see Mrs Farwell. Did not go to Mr Carroll's. I wish you would write Susan. If I liked to part with it I would send Guy's last letter to Susan.

I am glad Guy & Grace love the Sunday School. Guy must not study too much. I want him to get fat & rosy cheeks. Much love to Aunt to Eva & Minnie. I can understand how Grace prefers the doll & Bureau to the sled.

I enclose a draft on N.Y. for \$200.00.

I expect to have the 64th N.Y. Regt. I liked Guy's & Graces Sunday School Verses. I thought Guy's must be hard to learn.

May God bless you my precious wife.

Otis

1545 1/6/1862

From: R.B. Howard

To: Dear Otis [OO Howard]

OOH-1503

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

[11]

Farmington Jan 6, 1862

Dear Otis,

We have entered upon a new year. Shall we see its close? "Watch & pray for ye know not the Day nor the hour when the Son of man cometh." A Sudden death of a strong, noble young man (of Diphtheria) has startled us a little. I trust he is with his Saviour. Tell Charles two of those Marvell boys are sick of the same disease. Yesterday was our coldest day, but quite a no. were at meeting & Communion. Eight joined the church by letter, none are profess sin. I preached A.M. on "He found us in a desert place" &c Duet. 32 10 (I believe) P.M. On the words of Pilate "Behold your King" and tried to lead Jesus out as Pilate led him but with a different motive.

This being the first Monday of the Year we have had Union prayer meetings this P.M. & evening - rather thinly attended.

But my heart was made glad by a sick neighbor. I went in & found him literally rejoicing in Christ. He is a very reserved & silent man usually, but Jesus was so precious to him today as to make him speak words of heavenly wisdom & love. It was like the joy of a new convert. I fear he will die. Cousin Sarah Woodman (Warrens wife) called this P.M. He has sent her \$100 wh. she left with me & wh. I will dispose of as you & Lizzie decide. I suppose Warren wishes it endowed on his note. It is in gold, & gold is increasing in value. Shall I keep it, deposit it in our Bank, or send it to Lizzie? I have not heard from her & the children since I wrote Charles. I hope to go down & see them by & by. Ella & baby are well & have just gone to bed. Baby grows, pulls hair & noses, wonders with his eyes, & follows us around with them, is very "cunning", "Sweet" &c.

I wrote Guy an acct. of our Christmas Tree for the S.S. Davie had a Silver mug from his Grandpa Patten & various other things. I had a fur collar & \$4. I have written cousin S.W. & talked with her today a little in regard to her spiritual interests. She seems "interested", that is all. Let us pray for her. She is truly an amiable & lovely person.

Poor Sarah Sargent is in a "heap of trouble." Ella & I called there this evening. Frankie is just recovering from measles & the other three are sick of <them> & Sarah quite worn out. I have been down before today & tried to do some things for her. The children are as well as we could expect - are delighted with their new years presents from uncle Perry of two nice sleds, wh. they think came from Va. Capt Pillsbury has called there but I have not seen him since his return. Aunt Ellen Otis married her hired man, Ruel Williams, last Wednesday! He has worked for her two years & I have heard nothing against him. She has settled a part of her property upon him. I hear by the way of Mrs Dea. Page of Hallowell. Our Leeds friends seem fast passing away. 4 have gone this winter - Mrs Turner, Eunice Francis, Dea. Palmer & Veranus Lathrop - three of them members of that little church. Saw John Otis this morn. His family are at Leeds. His Religion is likely to suffer from his employment wh. leads him to labor on the Sab. & prayer meeting evenings. I am glad to hear that you have been relieved of the command of the Div. & would like to know how. I am very glad that Lizzie & the children can have religious privileges at Auburn. I used to regret that deprivation at Leeds.

Bro. Morrill leaves here & goes to Auburn to supply the Baptist Church this week. The Baptist & F.W.B. Houses of worship are now closed & my labors increased in consequence. O if my faith & love were only lively I could do ten times as much. They have delayed making up my Supscription this year & Providence may indicate a change. I wish to leave myself in the hands of God. If called to a chaplaincy, I would try to go & do my duty.

Give much love to Charles & kindest christian remembrances to Capt. Sewall.

Yr. Aff. Bro.
R.B. Howard

Warren would have sent the money to you but he did not know your address. I can send it if you so direct.

1546 1/8/1862

From: Uncle Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: Dear Sister Lizzie
[Howard]

OOH-1504

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

[12]

Farmington Jan 8/62

Dear Sister Lizzie

Sarah is again deeply afflicted & our hearts are all very sad over the death of dear little Timmie. He fell peacefully asleep in Jesus about 3 o'clock this morning. I was with him when even his poor mother could not bear to be there. He was sick a week of measles, but we thought there was nothing alarming till 24 hours before he died. It seemed as if a terrible fever affected brain, lungs & bowells & nothing could stop it. He often called for Uncle Perry in his delirium wh. was of a mild character. He was not conscious, or did not recognize even his mother for some hours before he died. He would call loudly for "Papa, Papa"! He did not seem to suffer very much. Sarah bears it like a christian mother - the baby is quite sick of the same disease & her attention is partially diverted by his care. Frank is about recovered & Otis does not seem very ill. Let us pray for poor Sarah.

Mrs Warren Woodman called here day before yesterday & left \$100 in gold for Otis. I wrote him immediately that he might endorse it on Warren's note, & will make such disposal of it either by depositing in Bank here or sending to you as he or you may direct.

Hope my dear little nephews & niece are well & their mother too. The funeral will be Friday. I hope mother will come up today. Uncle Ensign was here & has gone to Leeds today.

Many kisses for the little ones from their loving
Uncle Rowland

1547 1/8/1862

From: Charles [CH
Howard]

To: My Dear Lizzie [Howard]

OOH-1505a

Head Quarters 1st
Brigade

Source: Bowdoin

[13]

Head Quarters 1st Brigade
Jan. 8th 1862

My dear Lizzie

Otis has not returned from Reveille. Last night he & I visited Alexandria at my suggestion. I wished to call upon Miss McKuen of Bangor and daughter of Dr. McK. Brigade Surgeon to Sedgwick. Otis was "concerned" about the letter which he wished to write you to go in this morning's mail. I did not tell him I would write for him and do not intend to but if I begin he can at least add a few words and a letter will start today. He may tell you about our calls last night. It was clear and cold and the moon was shining very brightly. We trotted along sometimes socially, sometimes mutely for some distance. It is about 3 miles into Alex'a.

A new Regt came yesterday to supply the place of the R.I. 4th. The 64th N.Y. Col. Parker. He seems to be a serious minded man of middle age - somewhat more grey than Otis. He has a brother who is his Commissary. He & his Lt. Col. (Bingham) took dinner with us yesterday. This Regt. has not been much <drilled>. It is not very full. It was raised in Western N.Y. - one company at Owego.

It was pretty cold work pitching camp yesterday. We have a little snow - half inch or so.

Otis & Capt. Sewall have now come in & say the 64th did not appear at Reveille, neither officer nor man. We heard heavy firing before we got up & while dressing - down the River. We hope Burnside has sailed & is blowing up some of the Rebel batteries but can hardly believe he has got off without its being published all over America.

I will not take up Otis' "room". Did he tell you what a good prayer-meeting we had Sabbath night; & that Prof. Chamberlain was here Monday eve & that we took tea with Gen. Jameson & saw Mrs J. calling also upon Gen Heintzelman and Gen. Sedgwick?

Much love to Guy, Grace & a kiss to sweet Jamie.

Very affectionately yr. br. Charles

[Appended to this letter is one from Otis, written the same day.]

1549 1/10/1862 *From:* O.O. Howard

To: Gracie Howard

OOH-1506

Head Quarters

Auburn Maine

Source: Bowdoin

[14]

Head Quarters, January 10 1862

My dear little daughter

Papa got Mamma's letters with a good one from Grace. He is very glad she is going to be such a nice little girl. Papa had a present today of a little dog. His name is Castor. The giver's name is Carlos, an Italian, who has come to blow the bugle for papa. The dog is lying on papa's wash box; near the wash basins; papa sends a picture with this letter. Mamma is very good to give Grace so many things, a bureau, a doll, a new hat with a feather and a velvet ribbon. Gracie goes to the Sunday School? Does she ever hear of the Saviour? Does she love him? Shall I bring Castor home when I go? Give much love to dear Mamma and Guy. Kiss Jamie boy and tell him not to forget papa. Who plays with Grace, Guy or Minnie? Is Guy getting to be a large boy? He goes to the Post Office and asks for letters and I think must be quite a little man.

Good night my darling child.

May God bless you and make you always a good girl and papa's loving little daughter.

Your own papa
O.O. Howard

To
Gracie Howard
Auburn Maine

[Hand-Drawn Sketches]

1550 1/10/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest Lizzie [Howard]

OOH-1507

Head Qrs 1st Brigade
Sumner's Division

Source: Bowdoin

[13]

Head Qrs 1st Brigade
Sumner's Division Jan 10, 1862

Dearest Lizzie

I expected I should get a letter from you yesterday but did not. I am in hopes the next letter will say Guy is hearty & his cheeks getting rosy and Gracies finger has got well of its "run-round". I believe Jamie shews no traces of the scarlet fever, does he? How has Aunt Sarah made out to get along lately? Does she still enjoy her religion. I am glad to hear you speak so well of Eva & Minnie. Is Orestes with his mother. You must give him my kindest remembrances.

(Evening). Since I began the above I have received just the news I asked for. Your good long letter with Gracie's darling little letter enclosed. I have written her a letter tonight with sundry illustrations. I expect she will be amused at it.

I was on the "Examining Board" today. We examined eight Captains & two Lieutenants. It is some work but you know I am used to work of that kind at West Point.

Capt Sewall sent his regards just as he lay down a few minutes ago & said he thought I had gained ten pounds: so much for health. Chas has a cold & throat a little sore. Mr Miles is quite sick with the measles & Capt Sewall Judge Advocate of a Genl Court Martial. Charlie wanted me to say to you he did not write such a piece as that in the Herald where he is called my son. I don't think you could have thought he did. I have forbidden him to praise me in any piece he may write.

Warren Woodman sent one hundred dollars to his wife intended for me. She gave it to Rowland & he wrote me to know what he should do with it. Would you make mother a present of the money to buy what she pleases? or would you put it on deposit? Our possessions might get shaken if we had a war with England. I am glad to have you clothe yourself & the children - above all let them be dressed warm. It has been rainy & warm the last three days. So muddy you can hardly step. The 64th N.Y. have come in & taken the place of the Rhode Island regiment.

I hear that Aunt Ellen has married her Coachman. It seems to surprise her friends very much.

The little dog that Carlos gave me will grow to be a very large one tell Guy. He has spent some time in my tent today. I have sent him to Carlos' tent to stay with his mother. Lieut Bullock has a nice little kitten that sometimes comes in & pays us a visit. I think Jamie would like to hear him purr. Tell Guy [one] of my horses looks like a zebra, he is so stripped & spotted. I exchanged the one Capt. Sewall let me have for him.

I must now wish you good night my precious wife. I am glad we can look to a common Father & that we must sooner or later be together with Christ. Many kisses to the children & love to Aunt & the children. May God bless you.

Affectionately
Otis

[Note 1. A duplicate closing (2 sheets) was glued to this letter. It seems to fit with the letter from Charles & Otis to Lizzie, OOH-1505, dated 1/8/1862 which was missing a closing by Otis.]

1551 1/12/1862 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: My dearest Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-1508

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

[17]

Farmington Jan 12/62
Sunday Evening

My dearest Otis,

You will see where I am, but may be you have not heard the sad cause of my coming here. Cousin Sarah has lost her dear little boy Timmie. He died last Wednesday morning, of measles. All the children have been sick. Otis has recovered. Frankie getting better, but the Baby is still quite sick. I didn't know how I could come up here at first but afterwards I felt as if I must, and as Guy had had the measles I took him with me. I came Thursday, and now I suppose Jamie is weaned, isn't it too bad? I can't bear to think of it. Aunt Sarah told me to stay from him, and perhaps it is best. Sarah bears her affliction just as we all ought, with Christian resignation to the will of God.

I was there to help her yesterday, but have not been to see her to-day. Warren Woodman's wife came to the funeral, and is staying a few days with Sarah. She is really a very agreeable person, and very lady like, and congenial. She gave Rowland \$100.00 toward paying for the horse that she had received from her husband. I told Rowland I would take it and then you need not send me more at present. Is that the way you think I ought to do? I was glad to learn the horse was not lost as first reported.

I have not written to you for some time. I think I have written but once since new year's. I have been waiting for Gen Burnside's expedition to sail, and have felt a great deal of anxiety lately. I have been thinking that might affect you, Dearest, but I didn't know how either. It left "Hampton Roads" the 9th. I shall read everything I can get in the shape of news and news papers now, for a while at least, and pray God may over rule all for good.

I think Charlie deserves a good, long letter from me, in answer to his most welcome letter to me. I was so glad to hear from him, about Johnie Weir, West Point, and especially Jeanie Gray's book. I am perfectly astounded. Do you know anything more about it? You must tell me if you ever hear any more.

I am going to write to Mrs Blunt soon. I cannot delay hearing from West Point much longer. Where is Mr Blunt? When I called to say 'good bye' to Mrs Wheeler she asked me if I knew what Jeanie had undertaken for she (I) told her "if I succeed in what I have undertaken I hope to have a nice little home of my own." I heard through Mrs Rothery, that she was building a house, but they said nothing to me. I will risk her anywhere as you said once. I believe I shouldn't want her to have any connection with me. She would lead us all, as I know she would if she should undertake it.

Rowland has returned from the S. School concert, and here is a whole family - all the members here. I fear they don't realize all their blessings, as I told Ella. I have looked out the window more since I have been up here, than I have done before for some time. I have not heard from you since I got Charlie's letter. I may have one sent from Auburn to-morrow. I think of visiting Cadet Smith's to-morrow and not returning to Auburn till the next day. How much I do want to see Jamie. I don't write you as often as I must and I wish I could get a letter from you every day. I want to write more, but with talking and writing I have let all the evening pass. I have written to Grace. I hope you will soon. Guy commenced a letter to Susan to-night. Her letter came to Leeds and was sent to Auburn the day we came up here, so he has not seen it yet. Guy was very sad when I told him of little Timmie's death, and Grace said she couldn't help crying. Guy said he did want to have Timmie to play with when he came here to live.

Good night now
Lizzie

1552 1/14/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dearest Lizzie
[Howard]

OOH-1509

Source: Bowdoin

Head Quarters 1st
Brigade
Sumner's Division

[16]

Head Quarters 1st Brigade
Sumner's Division Jan 14th 62

My dearest Lizzie

Charles says I shall begin about eleven o'clock tonight to write to you; contrary to his say so, I will begin at once. It is about 1/2 past 2 P.M. I have not done much today. There came quite a heavy snow last night & it has been rather stormy since. Sunday it was as warm as summer & now it is more like the weather you have.

Yesterday I was on the Examining Board & worked all day about as I have sometimes at West Point & felt pretty tired when I got back. I lay down & took a little sleep & then with Charlie went to Clermont & thence to the 3d Maine. Dr Palmer enquired for me that I should take tea at Mrs Sampson's as her sister Miss Smith & Mrs Capt Watkins had come to visit her. We found them dressed for a party at <to by> Alexandria. You should see how neat Mrs Sampson manages to make her tent look - rather more so than mine.

At this point I broke off. This evening I accompanied Lt. Col. Barlow of the 61st N. York Regt. to see his wife at Mr Richards. Mr R lives just at the right of our grounds near the 5th New Hampshire. This is the first time I have called there, though I have often thought of doing so. Mrs Richards is reputed to be quite "secession" a cousin to Mrs Commodore Forrest. I found her a very pleasant lady. Her husband was not home this evening. He professes to be & declares he has been a strong "Union Man".

We have just got the news of Secretary Cameron's resignation & of Secretary Stanton's appointment. Oh, that Washington might be free from Corruption. "Lead us not into temptation".

Tell Guy I shall expect him to laugh heartily at my picture. He must describe it to Gracie. I am a little afraid you are sick for I ought to have had a letter this evening, or rather this morning for the letters reach here in the morning.

Capt Sewall is working too hard with his Court Martial. I am afraid he will get sick. Charles has had a sore throat but has now gotten quite well. I too have a cold & am a little hoarse. I don't think I shall grow very old before I get home. How is it with you darling, shall I have a young wife when I get there? I expect you will be young. How did Grace like her letter? Does Jamie love pictures as well as Guy used to? Charles has written mother a long letter tonight of six pages letter paper size. Have you written to Susan? I have not seen nor heard of Susan since the wedding. Have you written her or heard from her.

Capt Sewall has come in now. We must read & go to our "boards".

May God bless you all. Dont forget to remember me to Aunt & the children. Your loving husband,
Otis

1553 1/16/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dearest Wife [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1510

Source: Bowdoin

Head Quarters
1st brigade Sumner's
Division

[28]

Head Quarters
1st brigade Sumner's Division
Jan. 16th 1862

My dearest Wife,

I received your kind letter written from Farmington this noon. I had heard the sad tidings of little Timmie's death. Perry told me at the 3d Maine that Rowland had written him about it. I wrote you about the money which was sent to Rowland to ask you what you thought of assisting father or mother. I fear they may be much pressed. I can never forget the sacrifices my poor mother made in my earlier life to give me clothes & an education - the same you will make for Guy & Jamie, if ever like circumstances. I should like to make it easy for them if I could. Tell me darling what you think about them. Is Father hard pressed for money or not? Charles sent home some to deposit with him, for father to use at will. I think he sent a hundred dollars.

I know you must have been sorely tried to have parted from Jamie & I am afraid you have been too much taxed, or you wouldn't have "looked out of the window" so much. You will soon get back to Auburn. Was not poor Sarah dreadfully shaken to lose her precious boy. I keep hoping that we will not need that chastening, not that I expect we shall always be so good, but I long to have my children spared to become good & useful & I hope that such is the purpose of God. I wish I could go home for a time, but I don't feel that now is the time. Now men are getting discontented, restless, complaining. Now hearts are failing, money is growing scarcer, business is paralyzed, and now is the time for all men of true patriotism & courage to stand fast. We must, as a people, see hard times. We must be humbled before the Lord will exalt us.

A curious rumor got out in the 61st New York tonight that I was very sick & the result was a note from a French matron who is there. She is a curious woman & gives us some trouble with her disposition to use her tongue too freely, but she seems to be kindly disposed towards me. Capt. Sewall has been working during the past week on a Court Martial as Judge Advocate. He is working too hard I find. I fear he will give out for he is not naturally very strong.

Give many kisses to the little ones. It must be hard for you to wean Jamie, but I expect Aunt Sarah knows best. If you can only be well. I trust it won't be many months before we shall be together again. Charlie is asleep. He is a good brother.

Most lovingly your husband
Otis

My prayer is ever for you.

Perry was here today to learn all he could from Farmington.

1554 1/16/1862 *From:* [Lizzie Howard]

To: My dearest Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-1511

Auburn

Source: Bowdoin

[19]

Auburn, Jan 16, 1862

My dearest Otis

I receive letters so often from you, that I am quite happy, but ashamed of myself for not writing to you oftener than I do. Guy brought a letter from you to-night with another 'picture' (donkey and cart). They amuse the children very much indeed, but Uncle Charlie's "cold feet" ought to call forth pitying tears. I ought to write to him. He has written me such long, full letters that I feel very much indebted to him. He always writes just what you never would, so his letters are very welcome and read with a great deal of interest.

I remained in Farmington till Tuesday, was away from Jamie just five days. Jamie sleeps well at night now, and I can call him baby no longer. I found Grace and Jamie both well, but glad to see mama. I think of Sarah a great deal since I came back, how many afflictions she does have. I ought, and do try to be very thankful that we are all in good health. Rowland, Ella and baby look very happy in their own pleasant home. Ella has a very good girl now. Abby is still there, but will soon return to Bath, and Ella thinks of going home on a visit soon. I went to see Mr Smiths mother (I mean Cadet Smith) she is not married again, or was her second husband named Smith, and her first one, the one Charlie mentioned? She is a real good Christian woman with more good sense than we usually find in the country.

Charlie spoke of the late Col Jackson. I have never heard of his death.

How pleasant for Charlie to meet Johnny Weir in Washington. I must write to Mrs Blunt very soon. I should like to see Mrs Thompson. Give her my best love. Mr T. is a regular sot. He does better when his wife is with him, but has not much respect for her presence even. Mrs Blunt lived at Fort Independence and told me many things to surprise and almost shock me. I presume he would not be at all cordial towards you or any one who would do right.

Guy is much interested in Castor. Bunnie is still doing well. Gracie's finger is quite well. She has a new nail. Your letter to her was just the thing she wanted. I wrote to her from Farmington. Her hat didn't do, and she is still without.

I am very much obliged to Capt Sewall for saying you had gained so much. Charlie must not. Oh! I have made a mistake. Weir need not speak in such high terms of his General in the next letter to the B. Journal as he did in the last. I have never seen any reason to complain before, perhaps I should not now if I did not know 'the Weirs'.

I received the check, and I took the gold Mrs Woodman left with Rowland. I shall spend some of it for Mother. I want to and think that best. I saw Mrs Caswell at Sarah's when in Farmington. Mr C had not returned. Col. Strickland came home a week since. William Henry Timberlake came yesterday or very lately. They, he and wife, are going to Indiana soon. She has quite an amount of property there. I have seen her here lately. They have a little boy nearly two years old.

I find this note I left Friday evening, intending to finish it early the next morning, but did not think of it till just a moment too late for that day. I will try and not neglect you so long again. I hope you are still quite well and happy. I don't look for you home at all this winter. Aunt Sarah is for sending me to the wars now I need not take care of the children, but I fear I don't feel inclined to go. As long as I do not want to use the check I received from you, I shall not get it cashed for I think this better than to have so many bank bills, for I could not get the gold for it.

I have not written to Susan. Guy got a letter from her. We had been looking for one from her for some time. I have no time for writing during the day, but Guy must write to her again soon, and I will add some if I can get the time.

[Lizzie Howard]

1556 1/18/1862 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: My dearest Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-1512

Auburn

Source: Bowdoin

[21]

Auburn Jan 18, 1862

My dearest Otis,

I wrote quite a letter to Charlie last Thursday evening, but neglected to mail it the next morning, and the next evening I wrote a long letter to you but neglected to mail that, because I was helping Aunt about a carpet Saturday morning. I do feel badly at neglecting you so.

We are all very well now. All the children are asleep in my backroom opening out of this the parlor. We have changed the room somewhat since I first came. We have made the dining room that was, a play room for the children and I have my sewing machine there, and we stay there the most of the time when we are alone. But this room is always warm and that warms my sleeping room very well. I wish you all were as comfortable as we are.

I did not go to church this morning. I wasn't quite well yesterday and did not feel well this morning, but I went to Sunday school. Took Grace along. Guy was already there. It is directly after the morning service. Mr Adams exchanged with Mr Walker of Portland (State St.) Excellent sermon, text from the fourth chapter of John., "If thou knowest the gift of God."

I must tell you of a little incident that took place here. Cousin Fanny had a very bad cold and did not go to Church. I thought just after ten I would go and see how she was. I left Guy, Grace and Minnie up stairs in this room and took Jamie down to Aunt Sarah telling her where I thought of going. I found her quite well, <Adams> at home, and Aunt Betsey and Uncle Alden with them.

I made a visit as long as I wished and came home. As I opened the parlor door to come in Grace I saw Grace leaning against Aunt Sarah crying and Minnie on the other side of her crying. Guy was sitting in the rocking chair, looking as if he had something to tell me but hardly knew how to tell. It seems that they continued playing church and singing s. school hymns all just before I came in when Aunt, Jamie and Eva came up and found Minnie and Grace crying as if her heart would break. To inquire into it when they were done singing they had prayers. I took Grace up in my lap to ask her about it. "I couldn't help crying Mama, we were praying " and then she would cry again "O make Jesus to forgive my sins" she whispers and Minnie said "forgive the sins of the two little cousins" and we said some more and I cried, and Minnie said "don't tell" but I said, you would feel better about it if I told you", and don't you feel better now I have told you, mama?" I assured her that I did, but I hardly know what she had told me, with her sobbing, broken sentences and crying. Minnie cried because she saw Grace crying and said, 'don't tell', because being a little older she felt a little ashamed to be seen crying. I kept on talking to her to make her cheerful and happy. I told her we must try to be good, and do right and that Jesus came into the world to take away our sins. That we had to pray if we wanted Him to take away our sins. She seemed to think that there was something wrong in her praying because it made her cry. She is just as tender in her feelings as Guy when you have been talking to him. She cried again when she went to bed, because she feared she troubled me fixing her night-dress so long. She has a habit of saying 'I won't trouble you Ma-ma"; or "Have I troubled you to-day?" and I have to tell her as the case may be.

I wish you were with these children so they might be better instructed. Sometimes I don't know <what to say [CHECK ORIGINAL-fold on sheet 1] for them and I fear I don't do all I might.

I expect Col. Gilmore down to court. I hope Mother will come with him.

How much better for me to be here than at Leeds. I will try not forget this letter in the morning. It snowed all day to-day. I think it is pleasant now. I hope and trust you have had a pleasant and useful day. I enclose a work, and when you know what it reads, I should like to whisper to you, don't you wish you could? Me or Jamie which?

I will close now for it is nearly ten o'clock I presume. Continue to write often to me. When I stop to think that you may join some expedition & go into action, or leave your present position before I should see you I feel that I could not have <done> so, and <yet it> may all be.

Good night, no more room to write

Your
Lizzie

1557 1/19/1862

From: OO Howard
Brig Gen. Vols

To: His Excellency
Governor [Edward]
Morgan
Of New York

OOH-1513

Source: Bowdoin

Head Quarters 1st
Brigade
Sumner's Division

[20]

Head Quarters 1st Brigade
Sumner's Division Jan 19 1862

To His Excellency
Governor [Edward] Morgan
Of New York
Sir

I have just learned from Col Cone 61st N.Y. Regt. that his appointments or recommendations of officers to fill vacancies in Co. "D" of said Regt. were not confirmed by yourself.

Lt. Hemingway was made Captain - 2d Lt. Scott was made 1st Lt. and C. H. Howard whom I had requested Col Cone to appoint subject to your approval; and upon the strength of that appointment had created my Aide de Camp in orders; you had caused to be replaced by a Lieut Bain. Lieut Howard has been allowed to draw his pay upon this appointment.

This occasioned me much perplexity. It deprives me of a good Aide de Camp & obliges me to refund the amount of his pay drawn, to the Government. Had I supposed any want of confidence on the part of yourself in Col. Cone I should have hesitated to ask Lt. Howard's appointment in that Regt.

I respectfully ask that you reconsider this appointment and if possible put C.H. Howard in the place of Peter C. Bain who has never been with us or else give Mr. Howard a Lieutenancy in that or some other of your Regts. with the understanding that he is to remain my Aid de Camp.

I do not consider this as asking too much for I have two of your Regiments in my brigade & I am obliged to appoint my aides from the Vol. <subordinate> officers. An unfilled place in a Company is necessitated by the loss.

Very Respectfully
Yr Obdt Srvt
OO Howard
Brig Gen. Vols

P.S. For the fitness of Lt. Howard for his position, I respectfully refer to the officers of the 61st Regt.
O.O.H.
Br. Gn

1559 1/20/1862 *From:* Charlie [CH Howard] *To:* My dear Lizzie [Howard]

OOH-1514

Source: Bowdoin

Head Quarters 1st
Brigade
Sumner's Division

[24]

Head Quarters 1st Brigade
Sumner's Division
Jan'y 20 1862

My dear Lizzie

I persuaded Otis to go to bed early tonight and told him I would write you a letter. Perhaps you will not thank me for spoiling his good intention & depriving you of a letter from your husband. But Otis is disturbed a good deal of nights and often deprived of needful sleep. Night before last, just after pay-day some of the men would be noisy - I got up once and John once. I had three men taken from their tents to the Guard House and then made to walk before <tentmils> till morning. This was about midnight. Just before morning Capt Sewall had to go over to the G'd House to silence the men there - all these noises trouble Otis & keep him awake because he feels so much responsibility in the matter.

We have had it very rainy here for several days past. When not pouring right down there is a heavy fog settling down upon us.

Last Saturday Otis with a squadron of Cavalry went upon a Scout - partly to reconnoitre and partly to look for forage. I was left behind to inspect a Regt. Was just returning from Guard Mounting when I met Otis starting-out - (I have had this morning duty ever since Mr. Miles was taken sick with the measles. He is well now but very hoarse).

I was telling you about the starting of the scout. The cavalry had gone on a little before but the Chaplain was riding with Otis. It soon began to rain too hard for the Inspection so I got my horse & rode on after them. I found Otis riding at the head of the main body & the Maj. was with him now. He sent me forward with the advanced guard & I kept with it at its head most of the time we were gone. The reason he sent me was because I knew the "Countersign signals".

I cannot describe to you our entire expedition. We went out about 12 miles and at one house the farthest one visited by us and approached by only myself & another horseman. They told us that the Southern Cavalry were there two days before. I did not let them know but that we were Southern. We found very little forage. The country has been scoured.

Otis found one fine lady with her property undisturbed - Mrs. Fitzhugh - one of the F.F.V's. At another place near by only a few Negroes were left. Their master was in the Rebel Service. They deplored the loss of all Religious privileges so Otis called the Chaplain into the hut which we had entered to warm our feet & there we had a most excellent prayer offered up while we all knelt.

One poor old woman was blind & sat in the corner by the big fireplace which was so broad as to let in the outdoor light. All she wanted was tobacco & we borrowed some of one of the officers for her.

Otis is sleeping soundly. I hope my dear little nephews Guy & Jamie & my little niece Grace are also sweetly sleeping. Do they & does Sister Lizzie love the absent uncle.

Charlie

P.S. We were disappointed in not getting my commission from the Gov. of N.Y. Wouldn't it be too bad for me to be obliged to give up this situation but all will work for the best and I will leave it with the Lord.

1560 1/21/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1516

Head Quarters

Source: Bowdoin

[22]

Head Quarters
Jan 21 1862

Dearest

I had made up my mind to write you last night but had quite a head ache & had to give it up. Charlie volunteered & so I went to bed & fortunately went to sleep & this morning am perfectly over my troubles. Charlie has told you all the news. I had expected to take my Brigade out to the front but the Lord has prevented by sending us continuous rains & such traveling as we sometimes have at home in April.

I heard from Rowland of your cold ride to New Sharon. Did Guy see the place where papa fell down cellar, when he was three years old. He did not like to ride under the buffalo (?) I don't think there is much fun in that. And how cold it was when you & Guy rode to the depot. Are you well now you have got to Aunt Sarahs? I know you will write me all about these things.

I had a letter from your old beau at West Point Kirby Russell [Edmund K Russell, USMA class of 1862]. He is at present a Lieut. in a Long Island regiment & desires to be promoted in the regular army. So many of these young men ask me for letters! I wish he had taken more care of himself & his studies while at West Point.

It seems almost impossible for us to accomplish much new in this quarter. The idea will soon prevail that there are no live men here. And I fear that we shall have to bury many a poor fellow before the winter is out. One day last week there were five lying in State at the same time. In Col. Farnsworth Cavalry, sickness prevails to an alarming extent. Typhoid fever mostly. My general health is excellent & I have to be more than thankful, or I ought to be for God's goodness to me.

Poor Charlie seems to be hardly used. I have written to Governor Morgan to see if he will give him a commission. I do hope you will all be well. I am in hopes something will happen this Spring so that I can see you all. I want to know how you & Jamie are getting along. Did he know you when you came home? I don't expect he would know me. How did Gracie seem? Glad to see her brother Guy & Mamma?

Genl Sumner is almost well so that he walks about. I hope he will return to us soon. He expects to do so but it is bad weather for convalescents. How did Sarah seem when you left. Tell us about Ella & her home. How does the baby look, what kind of a house keeper is Ella. Rowland seems a little down hearted. I fear that it is going to be hard for the people to pay their ministers this year. I long to see you.

Affectionately
Otis

1561 1/22/1862 *From:* E.W. Woodman

To: Dear Cousin [OO
Howard]

OOH-1517

Port Royal

Source: Bowdoin

[7]

Port Royal Jany 22 1862

Dear Cousin -

I wrote you a long time ago, but receiving no answer I concluded you were away from W.

I had my wife pay to your brother Rowland 100 Dollars & will send the balance as soon as we are paid off. I wish the Regt could be paid off. There are many Soldiers whose families suffer. The last money they recd was 7 Sept.

That horse suits me very well except when troubled with that lameness. I am careful of him & hope he will be well by & by. Of course I do not allude to the horse to complain of you or to ask any discount.

Our Col I resigned. Lt Col Rust is now Col & I am promoted. Col R has been sick for about 12 days & I have had the command. I have drilled the Regt more during the past 12 days than it has ever been drilled before. Col I was just good for nothing in preparing Company to act together. In fact he knew nothing about military duties. Could not drill a Squad of men.

Col R started green & has not learned very rapidly. He is slow to learn & slow to think & dull of comprehension but what little time he acted as Col he seemed anxious to learn, still he was slow.

I am glad that I started as Captain for that position required of me to start at the bottom. I can now manage the Regt with as much ease as I could my Company. I hope the Col will be able fill that position, and soon be on duty.

We had one Brigade drill while Col R had command, & he seemed lost. Since he was taken sick we have had three & I got along alone (no Major here) & made no mistakes. Genl T told me that our Regt had improved rapidly. He said he was satisfied with me. What we need is a Col of experience. One who can manage the Regt in battle. The line Officers & men appear well satisfied that I can manage the Regt, but I doubt my ability to do justice by the Regt. We have been expecting to receive Marching Orders & if so I will have the command. We will go in bad condition. No Col. no Major, & no Adj. The Senior Capt is unfit, (but there are one or two Cpts who would do)

Adj. resigned & the one appointed not reached us. 3 of our Captains have resigned & 2 Lts.

The health of the Regt is quite good. Many have bad colds, owing to the sudden change from noon to 12 at night.

The Col expressed a wish to leave the Service on acct of his health. If he does, I should rather serve under an experienced Col (not of the rusty down East School) than to be promoted.

You got the general news by the papers.

Your Cousin
E.W. Woodman

My health good - not failed to do duty a day since I came into the service.

1562 1/23/1862 *From:* Jas. Q. Gilmore *To:* Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-1518 142 Com'l St
 Boston

Source: Bowdoin

[23]

Boston Jany 23d 1862

Genl Howard
Dear Sir

I received your kind letter in due course of mail and should have written you before but thought I ought not to intrude too much on your time.

I would not trouble you now but your letters are interesting to so many that I know they would miss them very much. I read your last one to the boys who sent the Books and they were pleased to learn that they were so well received. I see by the papers that you now have command of Genl Sumners division and perhaps may be so busy that you cannot write yourself but you may know some one who would be willing to do so and let us know how the cause of Christ is prospering. Men and Women are beginning to appreciate the work that should be done in the Army and they are encouraged to hear such reports as come to us from some of the Regts.

They are also rejoiced to know that some of our Officers are examples of what Christians should be.

It has an influence more than we sometimes expect. The reason that I ever wrote to you a stranger was that an Officer under you told me that you always asked Gods blessing at your meals.

I thought if you did so you would be willing to write me about the cause of Christ in the Army. And many thank you for your letters they are so pleasant. Said an old lady to me the other day "I wish I could take him by the hand and thank him for his good letters."

There is some religious interest among us and some 6 or 8 have lately experienced a change. Oh! how much there is to do yet before the world will acknowledge Christ. If you have time I should be more than glad to hear from you and now wishing you health and a safe return to your home.

I am yours as ever.

Jas. Q. Gilmore
142 Com'l St
Boston

1563 1/24/1862 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: My dearest Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-1519

Auburn

Source: Bowdoin

[26]

Auburn Jan 24, 1862

My dearest Otis

I received your letter of the 20th this afternoon. I ought perhaps to call it Charlies. He was so good as to begin to write for you. I cannot express how thankful and glad I am to have him with you. I hav'nt mailed a letter to you for some time. I fear you will think some of us are sick. We are all well. I got up this morning with sick headache, but it was all gone before I went to ride, of which I will tell you before I close.

Rowland intended making me a visit yesterday leaving Ella, baby and Abby in the cars to pursue their journey to Bath. They did not get down here (Crowley's rather) in season to make the connection with the Lewiston train, so they all Ella, Rowland, baby and Frankie Sargent came over to visit us. Abby got a man to take her in a sleigh to her friends in Lisbon eight miles. We were all very glad to see them. I hope the journey will do Frankie good. He does not seem to gain at all and looks very thin and pale.

We left all the children last evening, great and small, with Aunt Sarah, and went over the river, to an excellent concert. Some of the pieces we have had at our concerts at West Point. It was very pleasant to me to hear them. Came home at ten o'clock, babies all asleep, and retired soon after evening prayers.

I had arranged to take the children to ride in the morning when it was most time for the train to start. We all went to the Depot, leaving Ella and baby there to go to Bath. (Her friends will probably meet her in Brunswick as they were telegraphed to yesterday telling where they were.) We Guy, Frankie, Grace, Jamie, Rowland and myself then went to Uncle Hicks store. They got all the candy, sweets &c that they wanted. We rode down to see the big factory of the "Androscoggin company" and its big bell which has on it "The Union, Constitution, and the Land." Drove about the building some, then returned home having been gone some over an hour. After dinner about two o'clock Uncle Rowland, Guy, Frankie and Orestes walked to the Depot. They took Guy's sled along for Frankie to ride, and Orestes went to come back with guy for he don't go that distance alone. Charlie knows where the new Depot is.

Now the children are all asleep and I hope they will not wake for they were more tired than usual. I want to write Mrs Blunt also to-night. The people here remember you very pleasantly in connection with the morning meetings and prayer meetings. Mrs. Dr. Wiggin called this afternoon. Fannie wanted me to go to the circle. It met at Mrs Littles and she has visited me but I did not exactly feel like making the necessary exertion. Uncle Alden and Aunt Betsy come in to pass the evening now and then. I enjoy her society more than any relations here. She knows more, reads more, goes more, has more than three ideas and cares for things generally. Prentis is still in Bangor & doing well. Adams went into business last Fall, purchased a machine shop. He wouldn't be here if he was working by the day and job as he used to be. Fanny has a great deal of energy, and helps him all she can. He is doing well.

Capt Sewall Judge Advocate of a court martial - that is hard work! I do hope he may have his health remain good, that he may be able to continue his great assistance to you.

I do not know about Col. Gilmores affairs. He did not keep much money by him, and they spoke as if he had collected all money he had out, and all debts [Note 1] men were owing him. I have thought I might return this Bath Bond to him as there are some things I want to get for Mother. We will help them all we can if they need it.

I received your letter of the 16th the day you wrote and Charlie last 20th. You had just received my letter from Farmington.

Jamie sleeps well. I do not have to get up with him. Patting him is enough to quiet him. He nestled just now. I

went to him a moment. He is now fast asleep. He has quite an idea of talking, calls mama, Guy, tea, pie, cake, book and great many questions, and signs, reaches for the little fluid lamp and blowing with his mouth as if to blow it out, but that is his name for lamp. Asked him if he wants to go to Aunt Betsy, he starts for the door bowing and saying "bye, bye". When he wakes in the night he will smack his lips once and then say "te". I comes out very pleasant, but short.

Grace wanted me to tell you that she held and took care of little David while he was here. Guy wishes he had seen the place where papa fell down cellar. I hope you will always take Charlie's good advice, when he tells you to go to bed. You don't know when you are tired and sick and I am glad he does and can watch you.

Aunt Sarah and Eva have just come to sit with me, Eva with her books, Aunt sewing. Aunt is very well but you would notice that she has changed somewhat, is suspicious of everybody - asks questions with an evident motive - all comes through her earthly afflictions I presume. I am only speaking of these things to you, not that it isn't pleasant to be here. She is very much respected as far as I know in the society.

Mr Adams called here to-day. He asked about you but he has no idea how you, and the rest spend the time, what the duties &c. I don't think he has any more relatives in the service, or knowing much about the military matters. He is working very [Note 1] hard for the people here but his health is not very good.

Much love to Charlie, and best regards to Dr. Palmer, Capt Sewall and Mr. Miles. Glad to hear the latter over of the Measles. Hope he was not as indisposed as you were when you had them - would go out skating and fishing and I would expect to see you return blind. I hope Mother will come down here during Court with Col. Gilmore.

Your own
Lizzie

[Note 1. Two extra sides 5 & 6 (same sheet) were attached to the end of letter OOH-1524, but I believe they belong to the end of OOH-1519, before the sideways writing on sheet 1, indicated by the second reference to Note 1.]

1565 1/26/1862 *From:* E. Whittlesey

To: My dear General [OO
Howard]

OOH-1520

Brunswick

Source: Bowdoin

Brunswick Jan. 26. [1862]

My dear General

I was glad to receive your letter last Friday, & to learn from it that you are all well at your cozy quarters. I can see you all - each at his table, or one lying back in that luxurious chair of the Cap's with the ever present news paper. But you must be having a little of the disagreeable this month even if a small portion of our storms reach you. During the last two weeks it has snowed about half the time, & rained & hailed a good portion of the rest. I found the sleighing very fine when I returned, but now the snow is too deep.

Brunswick is as quiet as ever. There is nothing to remind one of the great struggle for life around you. It is only in the papers that we can find signs of war. But to me every description of a Camp or a battle presents a vivid reality; thus I am reaping every day good fruit from my recent pleasant visit with you.

Today I have been to church for the first time since I left you, & it was with difficulty that I kept my cough from annoying neighbors. Indeed I have not been able to be out much since my return; but am beginning to improve a little.

Our College term began Thursday, & I expect to enter upon my regular routine of work tomorrow. I shall try to apply my mind to "the school of the writer & speaker" for a few weeks; but I confess it looks in prospect rather dull, when there is so much to do & to suffer perhaps elsewhere. But my path seems to be made for me.

I do not think you will succeed in your kind effort to give me a place on your staff. There are many worthy men in subordinate stations whose services entitle them to promotion when vacancies occur, I think the Sec. of War will give them the preference - and justly too. Should Congress in the course of two or three months give you a chance to appoint a Brigade Chaplain, then —. But what changes may come in two or three months! That victory at Mill Spring Ky. has encouraged the expectation that great moves will soon be made and you may all be far from your present home. Great anxiety is now felt to hear from Burnside's Expedition. No one yet knows where he has gone. May the Lord direct his armada to the right place & give it great success.

A thousand things I would like to say and ask, but I must not inflict too long a letter upon you. I hope some one of the circle in your tent will write me often. I would be glad to hear from Chas or Miles or Cap. Sewall, & of course from you, if you can spare the time to write.

I will send the Independent to Cap. S. beginning tomorrow with the two first that contain Mrs. Stowe's story & sending two each day up to the last two.

Give my love to all. With much respect & love.

Yours
E. Whittlesey

I have not been well enough to try James Patten's horse yet, but will do so soon & then write you about him.

Mrs. W—says her opinion of Sen. Morrill is rising fast.

1566 1/26/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1521

Hd Qrs Howards
Brigade

Source: Bowdoin

[27]

Hd Qrs Howards Brigade
Jan. 26th 1862

Dearest

I received a very long letter from you in pencil two days ago. When I see the pencil I always fear you are not very well. I need not tell you how happy it makes me to get letters from you when you can get time to write me. I feel glad & I hope thankful that you have so comfortable a place to live in during this cold weather.

I wrote the above lines after prayers & before breakfast. After breakfast I had my horse also Charlie's & the Dr's & started to inspect the Brigade. I rode through the ranks of all the Regts. excepting the one on picket and then through the company grounds. It is hard to get so many men to conform to the rules of health & comfort. I told a Sergeant that he ought to see everything cleaned up, just as he would dress up for church at home. He said: "I wish I could go to church at home". I told him I wish I could but our business was here just now.

I came pretty near making a march this last week. It was reported that there was but one regiment at Fairfax Court House, and Col. Miller, one of my Colonels, desired to take a trip out there. I told him I would refer the matter to my Superiors in command. He went to see Genl Heintzelman & Genl H telegraphed to Genl McClellan for permission. The permission was granted and Genl H. sent for me to visit him. I did so & told him that I had very little information, none certain, the enemy probably had artillery. I was 12 miles from the place, the enemy in force but seven miles. I told him I was willing to go, would like to, but wished to look the difficulties fairly in the face. It was impossible to move artillery excepting on one road, mud deep & sticky. He said at once it was risking too much to accomplish very little; for if we lost a battle there it would be trumpeted over the south as a brilliant repulse; if we succeeded we would still have to fall back 12 miles to our Camp unless McClellan was ready to make a general advance. The project was given up.

I feel now that Genl McClellan's plans will succeed with very little loss of life. Genl Buel is succeeding. Let him cut the western R.R. Communication & Burnside the southern. That large Army cannot stay a month at Manassas, and as soon as it begins to break up we shall be likely to move.

After I wrote the above I attended religious Services in the 64th Regt. Rev Mr Hibberd. We formed square on the slope just in front of these Head Quarters. Band present. Opened by a piece from the band. The minister made a short Invocation, then sang a hymn, then Dr Vogle a minister (baptist) assisting in the 61st made a prayer. The Chaplain preached a written sermon – our chaplains fail to put Christ into their sermons – good lecture. Dr Vogle said a word or two. I told them that Dexter said that Walter had found his Saviour in Camp.

Mother wrote this about Dexter Howard & Walter Boothby. That was Dexter's message home. I hope that there will be no message like this - William or Henry "has lost his Saviour" but I fear such a one might now & then be told if the truth were spoken.

I think the Lord wills to carry me through this war. His will be done. General Sumner has not returned to us yet. But he is much better & we expect him soon.

Charlie had a long letter from Mother yesterday. Father was sleeping in his chair with his paper in his hand.

I have made a sketch of <> Thompsons cat for Grace. I visited her Friday. God bless them. Thinks her husband Thompson living more reverent than he used to be.

"Give my love to Lizzie", Charles. Give my kindest regards to her, Capt Sewall.

[Note 1.] This afternoon I proposed with Dr Vogle to make the rounds of the Hospitals. The 81st Pennsylvania has a Hospital, a large tent and also a hospital department in a house – so with each of the others. I will tell you

about my tour when I return. Col Staples was here yesterday from the 3d Maine. He wants to get into my Brigade. Lt. <Talkinen> the Quartermaster is here today. He says the Regiment would give him a good deal of trouble if it should effect the exchange.

(Evening) I will now give you a detailed account of our visits to the Hospitals. I met Dr Vogle at the Hospital of the 61st. As you enter you see two tiers of the sick, feet towards the center. A range runs the whole length <beneath> the middle part. We talked with the sick. The Dr. was speaking to a boy about 15 or sixteen sick with the scarlet fever in the further corner. I told him Guy's short prayer - "O Lord, Give me thy Holy Spirit." I asked him if he could say it. He immediately repeated it & said he would remember it & use it. The Dr. made a prayer - then we passed to the Pennsylvania Hospital. Dr Gardner the Surgeon went in with us. One Sergeant who is quite deaf from sickness answered me when I asked him where his home was - "my home is in God." Here again the Doctor V. made a prayer. We then went to the 64th hospital. One man had just died. They have two tents. We visited them both and talked with them & prayed. In the last were the convalescent. A young man laughed as I asked another if he could tell me the story of his Saviour, as I saw him reading a story. I then told him I thought it a fine time to insult the Lord. Several hearers looked very serious; so I changed my tone & repeated some passages of Scripture. As we went out I put my head down to a poor boy about 16 & asked him if he loved the Saviour. He said he "had'nt experienced much," but he was crying & promised to think & pray. We next went to the N. Hampshire hospital. Here we took Dr Knight the Surgeon, a real good Christian man, and went the rounds of his hospital. He has a large tent, & four small ones quite full, not all badly sick; some with measles. I tried to point them all to Christ.

We now walked a half mile straight to our front, to the "Gregory house" All here were convalescents except one who had just died. They came into our room & we talked with them & the Dr made a prayer. Charlie had accompanied us till we left the N.H. Hospital. He then went for the horses & joined us here with the horses. I will mention one young man George H. Farnum of Milford N.H. who talked with me specially. He seemed in just the state of mind I was in prior to my going to Florida. I took his name & he has promised to let me know if he finds the Saviour. We now took a ride across the fields in a southerly direction to the "Clermont hospital," where we read some in the Bible & went from room to room to talk & pray with the men. In one room a lieutenant had asked for the Episcopal service. I used the prayers of the prayer book such as I could remember. After we had visited the sick we had a pleasant call on the assistant surgeon Dr. Merrill of whom I spoke awhile ago to you in the 61st N.Y. He is quite well again.

I am pretty tired & have not told you the story of our journey well, but you can see how we have spent the Sabbath. Charlie carried books & tracts. Many loved to hear of Christ.

Give many kisses to the little ones. Much love to Aunt Sarah. The puzzle is to get a kiss when the command comes in a letter that way. <Mother has driven><[CHECK ORIGINAL -line in overwrite area]> I fear not that you will guide Guy & Grace & Jamie in the right way. Her prayer & its answer were affecting. Jesus is near the little ones.

Affectionately your husband
Otis

[Written in Lizzie's hand in the margin, probably to Eliza Gilmore.]

Jan 30 I received this letter from Otis to-day, and will forward to you to-morrow. Guy is quite well to-night, as well as the rest. Hope to have a visit from you soon.
Lizzie.

[Note 1. From this point to the end of the letter was found attached to OOH-1541 from Otis to Lizzie dated 19 Feb 1862.]

1567 1/27/1862 *From:* G. W. Shaw

To: Gen O.O. Howard

OOH-1522

Woolwich Maine

Source: Bowdoin

[28]

Woolwich Jany 27th 1862

Gen Howard

Dear Sir

Although a stranger personally, but not entirely by reputation I venture to say a few things that I proposed to say before you left the state Maine when your then 3rd Maine was at Augusta encamped but as I only saw you a few times during my brief stay and you appeared full of business I did not say what I went thirty miles to say, and after this long time feel drawn to write. We have about fifty men that have enlisted from this place & are now in the Potomac Army, and the larger part left here under your command among which was my son Corpl H. H. Shaw of Co. D that I feel a great interest in being promoted and who has often expressed regrett to me that you left their brigade. I hear very straight from them by a gentleman that has returned that there is a great desire pulling for commission & cousins <And> as he has had no one to say a word for him while others had so many to work for them I feel it my duty to make an effort for him and being an old officer myselfe you will allow me this privilege. I think by what my son says you will assist him at this time if in your power and as their has not bin any of the Woolwich boys that has asked or bin commissioned I think it no more than fair that if HH Shaw by examination is found to be compitent which I think & by what officers have told me that has bin their undcome luck that it is not asking too much to have him promoted to 2d Lieut which I can do if you will give him a recommendation for that office. I think you will find him a good scholar an honest steady upright man. Pleas to make a special effort for him, Gen and you shall be rewarded & drop me the answer as soon as possible and you will confer a great favour on your obt servt.

In Haste

G. W. Shaw

Woolwich Maine

To: Gen O.O. Howard

N.B. I send this in care of my son H.H. Shaw who will such conveyed to you as I do not know the number of your brigade

G.W. Shaw

1568 1/30/1862 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: My dearest Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-1524

Auburn

Source: Bowdoin

Auburn Jan. 30, 1862

My dearest Otis

I received a good long letter from you this evening. Glad you didn't make a march last week. You needn't be doing such naughty things. I was indeed happy to get a letter to-night for Guy has been having one of his "ever turns" this week and I have been a little down hearted. He has had no fever to-day and I presume it will not return again. He ate nuts one day last week, and took some cold which caused the fever to be aggravated. You know if anything is the matter with him this intermittent fever will follow. I have commenced giving him "torr elixir" It is highly recommended by friends who have tried it.

Peleg has lost his little boy—he died of Croup. Esq Perley came here evening before last. Peleg lost his health about two years ago by a fall injuring his back, at times he has not been able to be moved. He has been a great sufferer. He has been very low of lat, but was some better when John wrote about the death of the little boy. They have a babe six months old.

For three weeks we have had scarcely a pleasant day. We have a great deal of snow now, but it is good sleighing when there is much travelling. Col Gilmore was here yesterday Wednesday. Came down with his horse. He had seen no papers since Saturday. Cars could not get through. I think they went up regularly this afternoon. I will send Mother some letter to-morrow for Col. G. said they had not heard from you for some time. A letter may have been on the way.

I returned some visits Tuesday afternoon. I had a very pleasant visit at Mrs. Adams. They have four children, the youngest eleven years old.

Guy, Grace and Jamie are all sleeping sweetly now. Guy seems very well now. He has been hoarse since yesterday afternoon. I do feel very anxious when either of the children are sick. Aunt is a good nurse though. I have spent nearly all the evening reading the paper so I will have to cut short my letter, or leave it till to-morrow, but my mornings are so short I fear I would not get time to finish before mail time. We seldom breakfast before half-past eight. We are not at all military here. I will have a great many more bad habits to get over than I used to have by the time you come back to us. We had a visit from William Perry and wife and Coy one day this week. They are on their way to Indiana, near Louisville. Ky. He will join the army there as soon as he can. He spoke highly of Warren.

I would'n't try to get the 3d Maine to your Brigade, unless it was a superior regiment, and I suppose it is not. Col. Dow has a good chaplain, Rev. H. D. Morse.

Guy has commenced two letters to Susan, one at Farmington and left it, one just before he was taken sick. I suppose when I returned to West Point by this time I wrote to Mrs Blunt when I mailed your last letter. I hope she will write to me soon. Col. Gilmore and Mother think of coming down in the train to make us just a call not remaining all night, but returning in the afternoon train.

Thomas' wife has a little girl one week old. Her sister is helping at the home. Eva, Orestes and Minnie have gone to see Livia. Minnie is to tell Guy and Grace all about it to-morrow. We have Sunday School concert every month. Our class have written questions to answer in writing. One was "Why have we lots of Salvation through Christ?" Another, "What are given to Christ in the old and new testament"

What army officers are near you that I know? Army <>. Have you seen Mrs. Col. Staples yet? You will continue to write often, dearest, will you not.

Much love to Charlie. I may go to Bath while Ella is there, not sure. <[CHECK ORIGINAL - sideways writing along edge of page 1 is very faint> Mrs Sewall if I should. I don't hardly think I can get ready to go before Ellas will want to return.

I am just about beginning to sew for myself. I would like to do what I can before going to house-keeping for I have more time to sew now than I will have then. Rather lonely idea to think of going to house keeping alone, but it wont be so perhaps when I am really settled.

Yours lovingly,
Lizzie

[Two extra sides 5 & 6 (same sheet) were attached to this letter but I don't thing they belong here. It would have followed just after the sentence "I may go to Bath not sure." above. But this seems to start at the end of a sentence, perhaps talking about Col. Gilmore.]

men were owing him. I have though I might return this Bath Bond to him as there are some things I want to get for Mother. We will help them all we can if they need it. I received your letter of the 16th the day you wrote and Charlie last 20th. You had just received my letter from Farmington.

Jamie sleeps well. I do not have to get up with him. Patting him is enough to quiet him. He nestled just now. I went to him a moment. He is now fast asleep. He has quite an idea of talking, calls mama, Guy, tea, pie, cake, book and great many questions, and signs, reaches for the little fluid lamp and blowing with his mouth as if to blow it out, but that is his name - lamp. Asked him if he wants to go to Aunt Betsy, he starts for the door bowing and saying "bye, bye". When he wakes in the night he will smack his lips once and then say "te". I comes out very pleasant, but short.

Grace wanted me to tell you that she held and took care of little David while he was here. Guy wishes he had seen the place where papa fell down cellar. I hope you will always take Charlie's good advice, when he tells you to go to bed. You don't know when you are tired and sick and I am glad he does and can watch you.

Aunt Sarah and Eva have just come to sit with me, Eva with her books, Aunt sewing. Aunt is very well but you would notice that she has changed somewhat, is suspicious of everybody asks questions with an evident motive - all comes through her earthly afflictions I presume. I am only speaking of these things to you, not that it isn't pleasant to be here. She is very much respected as far as I know in the society.

Mr Adams called here to-day. He asked about you but he has no idea how you, and the rest spend the time. What the <start> is &c. I don't think he has any more relatives in the service, or having much about the military matters. He is working very [MISSING PAGE]