
1632 4/2/1862

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1585

Hd Qrs Bristoe's Station

Source: Bowdoin

[91]

Hd. Qrs. Bristoe's Station
2 miles south of Manassas
Apr. 2nd 1862

Dearest,

We are now on our return to Alexandria. Have now been four weeks in the field without tents. Our shoes are nearly worn out with long marches in this claying slippery mud. So we will probably delay long enough to fit up anew.

Last night after bivouacing for the night, I sent to Manassas junction & got the mail. You may guess my joy to get two letters from you - one written the 27th & the other previous. Charlie got one from Mother & one from Dellie. I got one from Mother and one from our friend Mr Jno. Bacon.

I have not seen our action of the 28th of March reported & think it was not. If any of our friends would like to give an account of it to the papers in Maine I gave the facts to you in your letter. I fear to seek notoriety, but if I had had some cracking move & then it would have kept me probably from being improperly commanded. However, the best way is not to look at all to the Public for praise, but endeavor to do your whole duty & say nothing about it. I think they are having more deaths at home than here.

How the dyphtheria is taking off the young people of Leeds.

Capt Hazzard you spoke of he is a splendid friend to me. He cooperated the other day with promptitude & success. I have hardly met an officer before who didn't at first seem to think it exceedingly absurd that I was a General officer, but I believe by dilligence & the blessing of God, I have not failed to secure the respect of every one whose respect was worth the having.

The skirmish spoken of in the paper occurred on Thursday & not Saturday & the 61st N.Y. was not engaged but the 81st Penn. Skirmishers came under fire of a few of the carbines of the enemy, but nobody was hurt. A few of Blenker's horses came up with the inspector of the Army Corps & crossed Cedar run. As soon as the firing began, the inspector Major Davis of the Reg. Army was left alone. The horsemen watching us cleared the track as soon as Blenker's & our 81st skirmishers came up & crossed the run.

You should see us cross these streams. The men wade them some 40 or 50 feet wide often. Sometimes I get off my horse & wade about & then wait till all the Brigade is over. The Band plays & the men march straight through. This last we crossed just at dark last night was Broad Run & the water came near up to the middle of the short men.

"George Bates" Regt is now within a half mile of us for a napper. He is in Banks' column & we are going to Alex. on our way to Fortress Monroe or in that direction. I was just ordered on a night march to capture "Beauty Stuart", wh. I got up had my coffee prepared, when the order was reversed & we were ordered north. So, So, the rule goes - march & countermarch. Our road is like that of the children of Jerall & I hope that our God is the Lord.

I have so much more I would like to write, but I think I will not now. Papa is much interested in what Guy & Gracie & <[torn page]> little Jamie. Do write about them Darling & about yourself. I hope Guy will always be ingenuous & truthful & a better & a wiser man than his father.

God bless you all.

Aff.
Otis

1633 4/4/1862

From: Mrs Sampson

To: My dear little Guy
[Howard]

OOH-1586

Quarter-Master's Depot
Alexandria, Va.

Source: Bowdoin

[92]

[Letterhead]

Quarter-Master's Depot
Alexandria, Va.
1862

[End of Letterhead]

Friday P.M. April 4th 62

My dear little Guy,

Do not think because I have not written to you for a long time, that I have in any way forgotten you, or any of the pleasant little times we had together at Camp Fessenden. I love to think of them all, and of the little tent of yours I took such good care of after you left.

Our next camp was named Howard, and there too, I was very happy. Your papa had sometimes to visit us, and every-body was always glad to see him. That Camp was broken a fortnight since, and the Regiment went to Fortress-Monroe. I came to Alexandria to remain until it should be prudent for me to rejoin the Regiment which I hope may be very soon. I am at Lieut Ferguson's whose family were friends of ours before we left home. They have one little boy, about as old I think as your little Jamie, and I love him very dearly, for he is the only white baby I have seen since I left home. We stand him in the window with a little silk flag I have made for him, and when the soldiers go by, he waves it and hurrahs, and they often bow to him.

By the way some of our neighbors are seceshionists, and the other day I saw the little girls playing with a secesh flag, and if you would like to have one and will answer this letter, I will get some ribbon and make one for you.

And now you would like to know, why I wrote to you today. 'Tis because I have just seen your papa and uncle Charlie, and I know you would be glad to hear from them through me, as perhaps they did not get time to write you themselves, for they were very busy.

They came in from Manassas at midnight and were to embark at twelve today, and I knew they would have no time to come and see me, so with my friends I went down to the Steamer to see them. They were looking very well, and though they have had very little rest for three weeks, were in excellent spirits.

They were to embark in the Steamer Spaulding which was the finest one I saw at the wharfs, and as the day is very fine, and there is a good moon, I dare say they will have a fine run down the river, and will all have an opportunity to get rested.

Genl. McClellan went to Fortress Monroe a week ago, and we may expect to hear of some important action very soon; but you must tell your Mama, not to worry too much, for the days that soldiers are in actual danger, are very few, and your papa has become well accustomed to soldiers life and if we may judge from appearances, it agrees with him.

The weather is beautiful here, many of the spring flowers are in bloom, and at Fortress Monroe the peach trees are in full blossom. They sent me up a nice little branch. I wish I had saved a bit for you, but when I go there myself if they are not all gone I will remember you; and now will <reser> out in the yard and get you a little piece of myrtle or cedar.

I want you to give my love to you dear mother and grandmother, and kiss little Gracie and Jamie for me. I hope one of these days to see them all. I shall try very hard to see your papa and Uncle Charlie as often as possible, and will be very glad to do any thing for them at any time.

I hope you will write me a long letter and tell me all about your little brother and sister, if your rabbit is living, and if you go to school and when I think of those I love at home, I will remember my little sunbeam Guy.

Very affectionately yrs
Mrs Sampson
at Lieut. C. B. Ferguson's
U.S. Quarter-Master
Box 10
Alexandria Va.

I should have printed this letter but had no time.

1634 4/4/1862

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1587

Hd Qrs City Hotel
Alexandria Va

Source: Bowdoin

[62]

Hd Qrs City Hotel
Alexandria Va
April 4 1862

Dearest

I got to Camp California about 1 a.m. last night, slept till daylight. Came to Alexandria – have embarked 3 Regts of my troops on steamboats Spaulding, Croton & Donaldson. The other the 64th is still at Manassas. We go at once to Fortress Monroe.

Will write you on the Boat. Keep up a good heart. “Jehovah jirah”

Many kisses to the children & God bless you & them.

Very affectionately,
Otis

1635 4/4/1862

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1588

Source: Bowdoin

Head Quarters on
Board
Steamer Spaulding
Near mouth of Potomac

[93]

Head Quarters on Board
Steamer Spaulding
Near mouth of Potomac
8-45 P.M. Apr. 4/62

Dearest

I wrote you just a note this morning. I received your letter just before I started dated Mar 31st. I thought I detected a slight tinge of discouragement in your affectionate letter. It is accounted for in your being unwell. I wish you could be well all the time, Deo Volente, but I know I cannot hope for it with your constant care & anxiety.

The last four weeks have rather told upon Charlie, Capt Sewall & me. I find we have marched with infantry about 140 miles besides the Cavalry scouting. Capt Taylor, now A.A.Gen. of our Army Corps says he had no idea I was so indefatigable. I like to see things move, and when a movement is ordered, if it is within the range of possibility I try to accomplish it.

But these labors are nothing. You have the care of men's lives on your heart. You have to see them fed & clothed, the horses must have oats & hay, and the enemy must be watched. Everybody comes to me for direction: "Where shall I go, General." Where the ambulance, where the horses, where the commissary stores?" Then the complaints, the fights on a small scale between different regts. & officers. Then the disposition to straggle away, the carelessness of company commanders, the marauding. Poor people coming with hearts broken for protection against "the Dutch" or Irish or American robbers either connected with you or encamped near by; all these things connected with the care & movement of troops press upon a commander. When all goes well, there is much satisfaction, but it dont always go well.

But here I am now enjoying a precious rest. The boat is moving along evenly. There are some 1200 men aboard this boat tonight. I think they are nearly all asleep. The sentinels are awake to guard against fire & to keep all the men in their places when they get up.

Charles & Capt Sewall are writing at the same table with me. Charlie was not well last night & this morning but is better now, in fact completely well. He & I both have had a sleep today to pay for our privation last night. Capt Sewall has had a very bad cold & cough lately & I am very careful of him. He has at times been half inclined to leave me & go home on account of his inability to stand the storms & fatigues of Camp life, but I think he will not leave. I dont like to spare him.

Genl Richardson is a great fat man somewhat given to lie abed in the morning, but I believe him to be a well-meaning & brave man. He & I get on quite well. We shall be at Fortress Monroe by dailight tomorrow morning & then I have no notion of further movements.

I saw Isabella's brother at Bristoe's Station tuesday morning. He looked hale & hearty and had a face beaming with smiles. George Bates was with him. I thought George was not quite so contented. Both were neatly dressed with well fitting Knapsack. They have not seen such rough times as my soldiers. Their roads have been good. I saw Mrs Sampson this morning. She cried to go with us to Fortress Monroe, but I thought her husband Lt Col Sampson did not wish it. She has a pleasant place at Alexandria.

I will again commend my precious wife into the hands of God. He will deal with us all wisely.

Kiss all the children & bless their little hearts. I am glad Gracie loves to go to Church.

Affectionately
Otis

(Direct Fortress Monroe Va.)

1637 4/6/1862

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1590

Head Quarters
Howard's
Brigade Ship Point

Source: Bowdoin

[100]

Head Quarters Howard's
Brigade Ship Point
Apr 6th 1862

Dearest

Here we are about seven miles from Yorktown. Genl McClellan is near that place. We are facilitating the forwarding of supplies. We are quite well, a little tired. Gen Richardson not having arrived I am still in command - always seem to have much of the hard work to do.

Much love to the Children. I kissed a little girl 3 yrs old named Lilly Howard, tell Grace. God bless you all.

Affectionately
Otis

1638 4/6/1862

From: Eliza Gilmore

To: Dear Lizzie [Howard]

OOH-1591a

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[101]

Leeds April 6th 1862

Dear Lizzie,

After I left you, I was constantly thinking of you, and your looking so worn, and your being so undecided and talking with my husband this morning. I suggested to myself whether you had not better stay at Auburn until May and then come to me, you and the children and stay through the hot weather. I dont know whether you would like the proposition. You know how we live. Guy could go to school to Eva. I propose it for your consideration. Why I did not suggest it when with you I cannot tell.

When I arrived home I found a letter from Charles, covering two large sheets of paper, giving in detail an account of their reconaissance to the Rappahannock. He says the instructions were direct from General McClellan with orders that the designated command be under General Howard. He Charles says their reconaissance is considered a perfect success by the officers.

I hope this will find you, not sick but better. Do be careful about lifting the children. If you once get bad in that way it will be hard to recover from it. Give much love to Guy, and dear Grace, dear little Jamie. Learn him to say Grand-ma. Remember my regards Aunt Sarah and Eva and Minnie. I shall send Charles letter to Rowland. I found a letter from RB when I got home. He has not heard from his brothers for some time. Drop me a few lines soon and tell me how you are, and all the rest.

From your affectionate mother
Eliza Gilmore

P.S. Please tell me what you think of my proposition.
E. Gilmore

next page [A letter from John Gilmore to Lizzie was written on the next page]

1639 4/7/1862

From: John Gilmore

To: Dear Lizzie [Howard]

OOH-1591b

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[This letter was written on the last page of the letter from Eliza to Lizzie on April 6, 1862.]

Leeds April 7 1862

Dear Lizzie

I understand that you have some money that you can spare. If you will pay Mrs Lothrop twenty four Dollars & endorse on the note which she holds against me (received the interest to April 5th 1862) I will account to you or Otis for that amount.

Yours Truly
John Gilmore

1640 4/7/1862

From: Dell [RH GILMORE]

To: My dear brother [CH
Howard]

OOH-1592

Bowd. Coll.

Source: Bowdoin

[94]

Bowd. Coll. Apr. 7, 1862

My dear brother:

Your last letter reached me a day or two after I mailed my last, and I imagine you may be sending me another before long, perhaps ere this reaches you. The term is now nearly done. It closes one week from tomorrow. I am now reviewing as rapidly as the Profs. see fit to put us through, much more rapidly than we are pleased to go. We finish all languages this term except English. I have become pretty tired of thumbing dictionaries and am not sorry that our labors in that direction are over. Prof. Chadbourne gives us today his introductory lecture on Natural History.

The trials and strifes of the Junior Year are nearly over. We look forward to the studies of next term with pleasure as to a recreation. Now the studies which belong to the Senior year properly come one term earlier, thanks, it is said to Mr. Fiske of Bath. Prof. Smyth intends to give us another dose of Calculus next term it is said but the class intend to make a row about it as the Committee of the Trustees obtained the agreement from him that we were not to have it after the second week of the Spring Term. I dont intend to say much but shall be very glad to see something instead of Calculus.

I see Nettie often. She treats me with great consideration. The last time I was there Mrs. Merryman inquired about you. Mrs. M. has had a very severe sore throat but is now better. George is on his way from Havre and is expected soon.

The state of things about college remains the same as of yore. Woodside of the Senior class died last Wednesday of consumption. His class and the Delta Kappa Society went to Bath to the funeral.

The state of the Snow banks in our vicinity are certainly not promising for this season of the year, and mud and water are the bore for every pedestrian. I had a letter from mother during last week in which she said the snow was four feet deep. Poor prospect for farmers.

I had a letter from Rowland on Saturday, the first for about four months. I was somewhat surprised to get it. I shall answer it immediately. He has had a remarkable revival. I wish something of the kind might manifest itself here quite speedily. Prof. Egberts lectures are attend by about a dozen, usually the same ones. The Thursday noon prayer meeting is no more. Sunday morning prayer meeting thinly attend. Junior Class prayer meeting thinly attended, cold and stiff. Never since I came to college have I seen so little interest in the cause of Christ.

The Medical Class is unusually full this term; about 70 in all, among them Alf. Mitchell & Bucknam. Mitchell boards at Mr. Savett's.

Fast Day occurs here in Maine on Thursday of this week. I am going to Bath to hear Mr. Fiske and call upon Capt. Patten's family and George Lothrop.

I am making extremely hard work trying to write this letter. It reminds me of my boyish attempts when I would scratch my head with my pen holder and ask you or mother what I should write next. After giving my love to Otis I will close because I don't know what to write next. I will write from home next.

Your affectionate brother
Dell

1641 4/8/1862

From: Eliza Gilmore

To: Mrs Lizzie Howard

OOH-1593

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[95]

Leeds April 8th 1862

Dear daughter,

Your letter to my husband came last evening. He has gone to Augusta on business, will be home either this eve'g or to morrow evening. I think he will come down to Auburn. You probably got our letter by last night's mail. I received a letter from Charles last eve written April 2d on the march back from Warrenton to Manassas at Brister's Station. You probably had one from Otis, too.

William Turner's son was here just now. He tells me they received a letter from Henry dated 30th March at Big Bethel.

A neat letter came to Guy last evening which I will enclose. Tell Guy to hold on to his good nature until the ice cream works off then it will be easy to keep it. Kiss Jamie for me, and Guy and Grace. Remember me kindly to your Aunt and Eva and Minnie, and Orestus. Much love to yourself.

Yours

Eliza Gilmore

Mrs Lizzie Howard

1642 4/9/1862

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1594

Head Quarters
Howard's Brigade
Ship Point

Source: Bowdoin

[102]

Head Quarters Howard's Brigade
Ship Point Apr. 9th 1862

Dearest

It is about 9 o'clock Wednesday evening. Since Sunday we have had a strong north east wind & almost continuous rains.

I find that we are so located that we get very little intelligence of any kind & no letters. When it clears off & the boats can run to Fortress Monroe we can get the mails. The Boat on which I proposed to come, the Croton has not yet arrived here. I am glad I changed to the Spaulding, for I got here Saturday night & landed two regiments & went to work.

The ground is almost all quicksand & the whole Army has had to be supplied from this post. I have worked my Brigade very hard, making bridges, roads, loading & unloading commissary & quartermaster stores. We found some huts at this place made in good style & quite spacious, about enough for two Regiments. I put them in them but today I moved into the woods a little to the south & across a small inlet of the bay. Mr William Howard's place adjoined this place to the south.

I have done this time what Brig. Gens sometimes do – I have gone into a house with my staff. A Mr Pomphrey lives here. He seems like a poor man & yet he has two hundred acres of land, some fifteen slaves, a wife who is more of a slave than the colored for she smokes a pipe incessantly. Seems to wear nothing whatever but an old dirty dress & for all the world I cant help pitying her for her forlorn life. The house is pretty tidy. You never saw more grateful people than Mr P & his wife were when I proposed to come here & make this my head quarters. He says he shall sleep tonight.

Imagine yourself in a country where soldiers, wagoners, negroes & camp followers are apt to come to your house at any time of night or day & rummage everything they can lay their hands upon. I have thought how mother would feel to have the cows shot, the chickens killed, the eggs stolen & the cellar robbed of a winter's supply. Such is the work of scoundrels & it is almost impossible to get hold of them in times like these. I have got so now that I try to protect everybody without stopping to ask their principles unless they are in arms against us.

I will try to finish this in the morning, my dearest wife.

I got up by five this morning to reconnoitre a place for a Camp & think that with the windy day makes me feel rather stupid.

McClellan was in my Quarters yesterday: and I saw him quite a little time at Gen. Richardson's. Colburn his aid says, the President gave the solemn promise to him that his command should not be interfered with, & yet 50 thousand men have been taken from him & put under McDowell at the last moment. Yorktown is said to be a very strong position. It cannot be carried without a partial siege. McClellan looked cheerful. He looked at the works, talked with the quartermaster & others right to the point, took a smoke at Genl Richardson's, while doing this, & then disappeared.

Home looks a good way off down here, but when the war is over, it will not take long to go home. Duane paid me a good long visit last night.

I dont know as I told you, that I found one day to my surprise that Dr Hammond was on Genl Sumners Staff as Medical director of our Army Corps. I found him at Genl Sumner's Head Qrs. at Warrenton junction. He inquired kindly for you. He is just as odd as usual.

I met a college classmate yesterday – Holmes – who used to sit beside me in College. He is now Dr Holmes & on his way to 6th Maine as surgeon. Capt Sewalls cough still holds on. I do wish he could get over it. Rev Mr Alvord, agent the tract Society is stopping with us now. My horses & Head Qrs. wagons were put on the Croton, were put ashore at Fortress Monroe & got here this evening. The weather is so bad that I doubt if she gets here tomorrow. Her captain was so cross & selfish that I would not go with him. I thanked him for his unaccommodating spirit after I found the Spaulding with so much better accommodations.

I have kept thinking about the children, while writing the above but have not mentioned them. I know, that if they are well they are sleeping quietly enough. I want you all to pray for me that I may have wisdom & discretion from on high to enable me to do my duty faithfully. Give my kindest regards to Aunt Sarah & Aunt Betsey. I thought you were up in <Farrville> till your last letter. You described your rooms once but I still located them there. Chas is well, but was sleepy & retired. I am going to put a large force on this awful road tomorrow & try & put it in order. I hope mother is well & father.

Much love.

Yr husband
Otis

1643 4/13/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1595

Hd Qrs Howards
Brigade
Ship Point

Source: Bowdoin

[103]

Hd Qrs Howards Brigade
Apr 13th 1862 Ship Point

Dearest,

I have a chance to send a word. I want to have gotten you a long letter, but Rev Mr Alvord is just starting for Old <Nous> & our opportunities are so few that I must take advantage of this for sending.

Chas & I are well. We have not begun operations actively against Yorktown. The storm caused delay in getting up the siege guns. I am building a log road from here to the Army-abior near Yorktown.

Much love & many kisses to my precious little flock. I got a good letter from you last night, written just after hearing from me at Warrenton junction.

Be cheerful & happy, for God will take care of us. Most affectionately

Your husband
Otis

1644 4/13/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1596

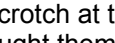
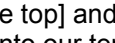
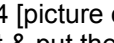
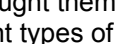
Source: Bowdoin

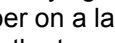
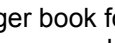
Head Quarters
Howard's Brigade
Camp Winfield Scott
Near Yorktown

[106]

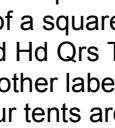
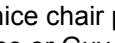
Head Quarters Howard's Brigade
Camp Winfield Scott
Near Yorktown Apr. 13th 1862

Dearest,

I have taken my paper in season to write you a long letter. Last night we found little insects crawling over us and my experience in the southern country showed me the propriety of getting up from the ground & that the few insects will very soon be increased to ten millions. So this morning I took two men and went into the woods and cut 8  and 4  and 16 more , and then brought them into our tent & put them together thus:  and put a mattress upon them. Charles & <mine> are together & Capt. Sewalls alone & on the opposite sides of the tent.

Charlie is not yet very well. He is now lying upon ours & asleep. I am sitting upon Capt Sewall's writing on a book thus:  with a fig box:  & the ink stand on the top as you see by my side.

You know darling my pictures are for the children to see.

Col Cone has been in, the Chaplain of the 64th,, Mr Miles & now dinner is ready & I have got down only to this point. You can hardly realize how hot it is here, and it has become so very suddenly. Immediately after that long storm, the weather cleared up & since then has not been a drop of rain & this weather has been exceedingly warm. Our tents are now located on "three sides of a square" in this way: . Our tents are all new and look as white as clean sheets. My pillow case is not white. I turned it wrong side out this morning & I think it looks a little more respectable. I have a line running from pole to pole with our clothes upon it, and have pitched the tent fly in front, like an awning. Thus:  I have had a nice chair presented to me (made of oak) by the Chaplain of the 64th Regiment, Rev. Mr Hibbard. Perhaps Grace or Guy would like to have me make a drawing of that. It is made just like Grandmother's old fashioned kitchen chairs. I will not stop now for the mail carrier is calling for my letter.

There is no change in our position & that of the enemy. I don't know what Genl McClellan is doing. I wish he would wake up to the impatience of the country a little & make us move with a little more rapidity. I fear he will be superceded if he does not do so.

A siege party I believe is at work on our right & another detachment is at work making some breast works near our center. But I do not think the purpose is a regular siege.

I will let this go unfinished. Good bye & God bless you & the children.

Aff.

Otis

1645 4/14/1862 *From:* E Waite

To: Mrs Lizzie O Howard

OOH-1597

Portland

Source: Bowdoin

[97]

Portland April 14 1862

Mrs Lizzie O Howard

Dear Niece

I received your letter with the coupons of Rail Road Bonds and have collected and deposited the same as you requested, also dividend on Bank Stock say \$44 on Casco Bank \$28 Canal Bank \$18 International Bank making in all \$240. If you should conclude to have it invested or any part of it you will please let me know and I will attend to it at any time. I was much interested in reading the letter you refered to in the Boston Journal. May a kind providence watch over and safely keep your Husband and so order events that he may soon be permitted to return to his home.

From your Affectionate
Uncle
E Waite

1636 4/5/1862

From: E Waite

To: Mrs E. A. Howard

OOH-1589

Portland

Source: Bowdoin

[99]

Portland April 5th 1862

Mrs E. A. Howard

Dear Niece

The dividend on Rail Road Bonds is due and payable at the Canal Bank. If you will send the Coupons I will collect and send you the money if you wish.

The Bond dividends will be payable after Monday next.

From your Uncle
E Waite

1646 4/16/1862 *From:* A. B. Farwell

To: Mrs. O. O. Howard

OOH-1598

Washington

Auburn Me.

Source: Bowdoin

[104]

Washington
April 16, 1862
Mrs. O. O. Howard
Auburn Me.

I received your favor of the 6th some days since and should have answered it before, but for the expectations of seeing the Gen. your husband. Owing to quite a severe indisposition, I have been unable to visit his command, and hence cannot write you as I had hoped to do.

Although I very much dislike to have my house remain unoccupied I cannot consent to compel you to its occupancy, if it would in any degree decrease your happiness or increase the burdens and cares of life, and hence you are at liberty to consult your own wishes in the premises, and I will regard myself as at liberty to lease it to other parties, unless the General shall hold me to contract.

I have written to your brother Rowland, and he will, I doubt not, interest himself for me that the house does not long remain empty.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Srvt
A. B. Farwell

1647 4/16/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1598

Head Quarters
Howard's
Brigade

Source: Bowdoin

[105]

Near Yorktown
Head Quarters Howard's
Brigade April 16 1862

Dearest,

Yesterday while out on the road Superintending our Corduroy constructions, I received orders to move up to join Genl Sumner, for which I was very glad, because is a soldier & likes me & my brigade. I drew my forces out of the mud & dirt and quartermaster's department as soon as I could & moved up. Charlie was un-well & I had to leave him behind, but he came up this morning & is now pretty smart. He was threatened with a fever, but having had good care I think he is safely over it.

Mr Edwards, clerk to Capt. Barker is just going to Fortress Monroe. I am writing this note to send by him. Here we are far from the post of danger.

Genl McClellan intends to take Yorktown by a partial siege. I hope you feel cheerful & dependent on the will of God. I told Genl Sumner this morning that I had a wife & three little children, & that they were not well provided for, but that I believed if I was taken, they would be cared for. I hope it is not God's will to take me away, but many other's have gone & many loving wives & lovely children have had to pray with broken hearts for consolation & strength. Let us be dependent & <trust in God[CHECK ORIGINAL tape right side page 2].

We have a pleasant encampment. I am living in tents. It is as beautiful & warm as in midsummer here now. Give much love to Guy & Gracie & kisses to Jamie.

Mrs Sampson wanted to come with me but I would not take her. There is no place here for a lady, none whatever, as things now are. She cried to come. The battle in the West was a hard one. We shall not take Yorktown without a struggle, but Genl McClellan is a safe man, notwithstanding the goading of the press.

Good by my darling wife. May God in mercy deal with us all after his own holy & righteous will. I got your good letter of the 10th inst, directed to Fortress Monroe. Put a "Richardson's Division" on your letters.

Most lovingly, yr husband
Otis

Charlie sends love to Lizzie. "This is a better place than Ship Point" he says.

1648 4/17/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1600

Head Quarters –near
Yorktown
Camp “Winfield Scott”

Source: Bowdoin

[107]

Head Quarters – near Yorktown
Camp “Winfield Scott”
April 17, 1862

Dearest,

Yesterday after I wrote you & sent the letter off by Mr Edwards, I rode with Mr Scott through the woods to try & find Genl Key's Army Corps. We rode into the woods by a Corduroy road, & on & on. We went for some three miles and found nothing but a continuous forest. Here we came into a small clearing & found a few tents & some men marching. We heard firing from our right & as I feared I would be wanted, we rode back over the same road. I ordered a drill at 4 P.M. Just at that time, the order came for us to march. We immediately broke up camp got ready & marched, but only about a mile to occupy this place that Genl Sedgwick had just left. Our new camp is not so cleanly as the old, but we are well off for water.

The weather is extremely warm, as hot as July at West Point. A slight breeze is playing over the surface of the ground & relieves the oppressiveness of a hot day.

Today Mr Scott Lt. Col Langley of the 5th N.H and I went out straight to the front to get some idea of the fortifications & what our forces are doing. We went where we could see the works. One battery was in position & firing upon their works. They had partially withdrawn & were throwing up new works in rear of the first line. When McClellan will take these works I do not know. I hear that we were to be held in reserve. This is an entirely safe place unless the first & second line run, which I hope they are not going to do this time.

Charles is not yet quite well, but expects to be quite well by tomorrow. He isn't much sick.

Everybody is talking & I have tried to throw a few words together. I hope this will find you entirely well & cheerful. Many kisses & much love to Guy, Gracie & Jamie & may God's blessings rest upon you darling & them.

Affectionately
Otis

1649 4/20/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1601

Source: Bowdoin

Head Quarters
Howard's Brigade
Camp Winfield Scott
near
Yorktown

[110]

Head Quarters Howard's Brigade
Camp Winfield Scott near
Yorktown Apr. 20th 1862

Dearest,

I commenced a letter to you yesterday with the intention of writing you a full one but I failed to finish it. I have not received a letter from you since day before yesterday, and am hoping to get one today or tomorrow.

I feared last night from certain orders received about the sick that the big battle anticipated at & over Yorktown would begin today, but I am happy to find that there seems little change since yesterday. I said I feared. I have an abiding hope, that Sunday will not be selected for our attack. I have worked my brigade Sunday & hard & feel willing to do so when necessary, but I cant understand the recklessness that leads our Generals to select Sunday upon which to open an action.

I visited a poor family about a mile from here this morning, a Mr Buscher. He has a wife & some dozen children, & I noticed one little grandchild about the age of Jamie. The mother & one child were sick in bed. The daughter-in-law wife of a son now our prisoner was sick upstairs. The house was very small & situated in a clearing of some fifty acres, completely surrounded by woods & thus completely isolated from the rest of the world. He had some stock, a little corn, some bacon & a fair amount of other necessaries of life our troops took them from him when they first came in this vicinity. Two sons were taken away. One had been a secession soldier but the other had not, but was probably taken for a guide. The poor mother is sick & almost dying with anxiety for these sons. I told her they would not be hurt & were really safer than they would be at Yorktown at this time. I shall try to give these people some provisions. We could get along much better in our Army if we had no robbers.

I spoke of Mr Miles. He has come back to me. He got a little ambitious, had the promise from Genl Sumner of going on his Army Corps Staff, but failed of it on account of a reduction of the number of the staff in the Bill of organization. He then went with Genl Richardson, but found that the conversation & demeanor of his staff officers did not suit him, so he came back to me.

Genl Sumner is just announced as commanding the two left Army Corps on left wing of the Army of the Potomac. This will probably give us Genl Franklin to command our Corps d'Armeè for I understand his division is arriving & will be assigned to us. I have a notion that this arrangement augurs a change in the disposition of our forces, but cannot say.

Genl Smith, on account of a "misconstruction of his orders" on Wednesday last where the 3d & 6th Vermont Regiments suffered so much from being unsupported, has been arrested. I hear it so reported. I learn from good authority that he was drunk or very much under the influence of liquor during the action. An eye witness told me that he fell from his horse. There are other Brigadier Generals that get drunk. You must know the horror I feel regarding such men. Most excellent officers (otherwise) drink, drink, drink, and advocate whiskey rations. I don't like to be uncharitable, but I do not wonder at paralysis when liquor is ruling. McClellan is a good man, but his staff is drinking. Grant is a drinking man, hence, a want of preparation, a want of vigilance, & a lack of proper orders in action. God grant that Drunkards may not be allowed to destroy us. The only hope ought not to rest upon a drinking ending. Our troops are generally sober, but utterly profane. The people of this land do not fear God. They will face the jaws of death with blasphemy. Is it wonderful that rebellion is not crushed out?

We have a nice little German boy who is singing in a neighboring tent. His voice is sweet & soft & child like.

His name is Charlie, sometimes they call him "Bony." he was a little boot-black in Phila. I think some 12 or fourteen yrs of age. Capt Sewall took him of Col. Miller, 81st Penn. He is a real nice little boy tell Guy, without any relatives that he knows of, but just as cheerful & kind as he can be. He talks German as my interpreter very often.

I met Genl Jameson the other day, but says Mrs Jameson is now at home. I wish you could see her. I think you would love her. Capt. Sewall keeps begging that you will take a trip to Bath & see Mrs Sewall. She feels dreadful about her husband being here, begs & pleads with him to go home, & some of her friends think & say to her, that she must have driven him away. I wish she could feel how all important her husband is to his country's service, & how absolutely necessary it is to make these terrible sacrifices for the common good. He <looks [CHECK ORIGINAL-tape]> to go home & I think will so soon as he can with honor & without detriment to me. Mrs Sewall thinks you bargained for a soldier. I hardly think that is so in the drawing up of the primary contracts, n'est ce pas?

Many kisses to the little ones. Charles is pretty smart but not quite well. His liver wont act & he is weak. It is very rainy today. May our Common Father bless us & protect us & bring us together in Safety.

Affectionately your husband
Otis

1650 4/22/1862 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: Dearest [OO Howard]

OOH-1602

Auburn

Source: Bowdoin

[312]

Auburn April 22d 1862

Dearest

I received such a great letter from you to-day that I want to write and tell you how happy a letter makes me, and if you and Charlie are well and happy also of course I am made more happy. You wrote this letter on the 16th the next day after you joined Gen. Sumner which you seemed very glad to do, if it was "near Yorktown" you wrote "here we are far from the post of danger" but from what follows now your having moved up as you termed it. I presume you left out the not and meant to have said, "not far from the post of danger", I think I am cheerful. I think I am dependent on the will of God. "the way of man is not in himself. It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." The Lord is my strength and my refuge.

I do most earnestly pray you may come back to us, but if God takes you to himself, he can also take care of us. I am not writing a sad letter I am only telling you.

I told you in my last that I had written to Mr Farwell. I got an answer and he also wrote to Rowland. A gentleman he mentioned to Rowland will take the house. I may have to pay this months or so rent, but would do that willingly. The thought of going to house-keeping alone began to be a burden and I got rid of it as soon as possible and I dont think Mr Farwell cares or is disappointed only there is a little mistrustful feeling on my part that he would like the Generals family in his house in preference to others. I dont think I am bound to gratify him in so small a matter.

I finished a letter to Maria before I commenced this and it is now late. I will leave it now. When I stop to think what sentence to end with I can only lift up my heart in prayer to God for you and for me.

Morning.

We had a rainy day yesterday and it is not very pleasant this morning. I am going over the river with cousin Fanny taking Grace with me. Guy has gone to walk with Minnie.

I am glad to learn that 'McDowell' is moving on hoping he is to go to the rear of "Yorktown", according to McClellan's plan I was sorry when I learned that the former was given a department. I think Gen McClellan must have felt badly to have lost his men, but he is a good man, and if the end is only accomplished that he aimed at he will rise above jealousy and be thankful. All he has done will eventually be known. Guy is going to wear a "McClellan" hat. It is a small thing but in a community like this small things are noticed.

We are all well this morning. I hope and trust you and Charlie are also. Much love to you both. I presume I shall go to Farmington to spend the summer. Mrs Paswell wanted to board us a while ago. You must not worry anything about us. When we are all well I think I dont want anything else. I will get ready to go out now and take this to the P. Office. What would I do without the mails.

As ever your trusting wife.

Lizzie

1651 4/22/1862 *From:* Rowland [RB
Howard]
Farmington

To: Dear Lizzie [Howard]

OOH-1603

Source: Bowdoin

[111]

Farmington Apr 22/62

Dear Lizzie

I arrived home about 7. last evening using the "shore car" for the last 5 miles. The cars came thro' without difficulty this a.m.

We have had such a severe rain that I have been out but little today, but have been resting very fast. Mr Hones thinks he could go into Mr Farwells house pretty soon if you decide not to take it. Mrs Norton's rooms are let permanently to a Dr Hamilton & family.

So it seems to be housekeeping (unless your Aunt would come) or nothing. The wood is not cut yet & I will see the man & tell him not to do it.

I have bought some dry wood in the wood house of Mr Hardy, a part of wh. you can have if you come. Sarah & children are well, but her girl has gone home for a few days & she is alone.

Give much love to the children & yr. Aunts family.

Yr. aff. Brother
Rowland

1652 4/23/1862 *From:* Mary A Morris

To: Dear Sir [OO HOWARD]

OOH-1604

Washington D.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[109]

Washington D.C.

April 23d 1862

My dear Sir,

I can not tell you how truly happy I feel in hearing from my son that I must direct my letters to "General Howard's Head Quarters" for if I misstake not, "Genl Howard" is my old friend of Tampa Bay, Florida, memories – then a Lieut in the Ordnance Corps.

I trust so, for I am sure for my sake and Col Morris' you will have a friendly interest in our boy – he is not the one we used to think looked like you, but our youngest and darling – not yet nineteen years of age. He is a good youth, a good son, manly and self-reliant, and will, I trust, show you he is worthy the good will you will feel for him on his parents account.

My heart in common with those of thousands of anxious mothers and wives is in a constant state of disquietude. I seem but to live on the daily accounts – uninformed as they so often prove to be, and in prayer to God, to give success to our armies, & end this most afflicting war.

I have a few moments only before the mail today closes, and I do not wish to lose it. I introduce my boy to you, and to ask your thought for his welfare.

With sincere & friendly regard
Mary A Morris

My son is in the 4th Artillery Company A. under Capt G. N. Hazzard.

My address is
Fort McHenry
Baltimore Md

Col Morris has been there since the beginning of the War.

1653 4/24/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1605

Source: Bowdoin

Head Quarters
Howard's
Brigade Camp Winfield
Scott

[112]

Head Quarters Howard's
Brigade Camp Winfield Scott
Apr. 24 1862

Dearest,

Yesterday I went up to Genl McClellan's Head Quarters in the forenoon, saw our friend Col. Kingsbury and had a long talk with him. He says Genl McClellan wishes to get all his batteries in readiness before he opens fire. If our friends could realize the kind of country we are in, they would not be impatient. The peninsula is level, the crust is some six inches before you strike water & quicksand. The whole front & the whole country in fact is a forest with clearings large enough for separate farms.

The Warwick river, I visited in the afternoon of yesterday is a stream some 20 or 30 rods wide and bordered by a swamp on each side wider than the river. I went to our extreme left in the afternoon, called upon Genl Keyes, saw Major (alias Capt) Baird. Baird was very pleasant but always manages to show what a small opinion he has of me as a Genl. There are others like him, but we get on very well here, thanks to a good staff & a good providence.

Charlie took the afternoon ride with me, also Capt Booker, & Lieuts Scott & Miles. Charlie was not strong enough to ride so far & got pretty tired before we got back, but he slept well on our pole bed & is still sleeping. Last night I concluded I was too tired & stupid to write a decent letter so I got up this morning & am fulfilling the purpose.

One incident occurred yesterday that was a little amusing to look on. We were crossing a ravine, in the middle was a muddy stream. Mr Miles came up, looked at it & checked his horse. I thought it would do to pass through & let my horse "Charlie" have the reins. He went in & immediately sank in the mud. I scrambled out on my hands & knees as fast as I could & let the horse take care of himself. He made a few plunges & brought himself clear through. Such are some of the scenes you meet with here, but I myself have never had to leave my horse's back before. I saw one poor horse lying in the mud & water almost covered & just ready to die, with the other three of his team looking on – having been got out.

Warwick Court House consists of a small brick school house building, for the Courts, a little jail of less size & one other building, perhaps for a bank. There was one old, dilapidated wooden dwelling house nearby. This is what occupies one clearing. The interval lands in that vicinity are beautiful. The apple trees & peaches are in blossom, and the trees are leaving. As soon as the rains are over the ground gets settled. I expect it will be pleasant here, but I would rather live even in Auburn.

If you dont want to go to Farmington, nor to housekeeping I would a thousand times rather you would not. I want you to be where you feel most happy & contented.

Chas' love if awake. I have'nt got any letters for several days, but shall look for one from you darling today. May God Bless you my precious wife & keep you in his love & <favor>.

Aff.
Otis

I must write the names of Guy, Grace & Jamie & send much love & many kisses. Tell Jamie to lookout how he calls other people "papa"

Remember me to Aunts & cousins. Mother gives an account of her visit & Rowland of his.

Aff. Yr husband
Otis

My place is where it was at last writing.

1654 4/26/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1606

Source: Bowdoin

Hd Qrs Howard's
Brigade
Camp Winfield Scott
near
Yorktown Va

[114]

Hd. Qrs. Howard's Brigade
Camp Winfield Scott, near
Yorktown Va Apr 26 1862

Dearest,

Charlie has just sent a letter to you and I intended to have put a line in it, but it was just leaving for the mail as I entered this office tent, so I concluded not to detain it but to begin and then to send by the next mail.

Yesterday after my usual duties had been done I went to the York river & visited Genl McClellan's "Water battery" No 1. I found Col Tyler there, in the class before mine at West Point. Five guns were in place, with the one hundred lbs balls piled by their side. From this battery I could see the enemy's works at Gloucester Point just opposite Yorktown & the Water or Sea coast battery on the Yorktown side. The distance is nearly two miles – rather a long range. The Guns in our battery are on wrought iron carriages & look as if they might break them on recoil. We took a survey of the enemy's works.

I say we – Col Miller 81st Penn was with me. Also Maj Cook & Adj't Dodd of 5th N.H. And after that Col M & I went past Genl McClellan's Head Quarters to visit another battery nearer Yorktown. We saw Brigades coming in & Brigades going out on picket duty. We saw a second battery of 6 20 lbs guns in position - but as it was growing dark, I led Col Miller by a straight course to my Head Quarters. I met Reese near battery no 1. He said he engineered that & inquired kindly for you.

Lt. Wagner died from hemorrhage after he thought he was going to get well. Lt Merrill is in hospital (wounded at the same time). Today, though it rained, I took another trip to Genl Sumner's, about a mile & a half ahead, through woods and thence to the front. I saw Capt Owens of your acquaintance at Sumner's Head Qrs. & Grace's Dr Hammond. Capt Owens inquired for you, where you are & if well. Dr Hammond was much pleased at the children's messages & says Gracie ought to come. What a place to come to!

At the front I found a battery ready for 6 Guns & whom should I meet but Lieut Kirby. He has had the Typhoid fever since I met him with a bloody face at Bull Run. He asked for Mrs Howard & seemed glad to see me. I thought he looked very sober, I mean serious with a tinge of sadness. There was a skirmish this morning near where he was. He pointed to the place.

I went along to the North & looked at our works & the enemy's till I could see the same battery we left yesterday at dusk & then turned about and went to Genl Smith's Divn called at the tent of my old friend Col Whiting 2nd Vermont. The Chaplain Rev. Mr. Smith was there, but the regiment was out as pickets.

John puts in his head & says, "Genl the supper is all ready, Sir." "The oysters are cooling," Capt Sewall says.

After supper it was dark and I sat by our fire, talking with Capt. Hazzard till quite late. The weather is very cold & trying when the wind is northeast. It storms for three days, consecutively and we have a fire arranged thus: [picture of tents with flies and a fire in front of them and soldiers sitting around the fire.] Mr Scott looked at my picture & recommends that I show how the smoke goes in under the fly. I am sitting under the fly with Charlie & Mr Scott now. The other day I sent some pioneers to get some chestnut bark & fix up the sides under the fly. The front of the tent fills up the back. Tell Guy they brought some bark that looked thus: [picture of a cylinder] then they unrolled it thus [picture of a flat supported with some rods] these are stuck up under the edges of the fly like the side boards of a cart. When the wind "whiffles" around now it sometimes drives the smoke under the fly & makes every body cry. We have some pine boughs or twigs for a floor in the tent & this with our nice pole bedsteads make us very cozy & comfortable. You can hardly think how little a man needs to make him

comfortable. Capt Sewall says he shall not put up a tent & build a fire in his back yard when he gets home. This is because we sometimes try to make him own that a man sleeps better out of doors than in a house.

My health is good. Dr Palmer says he was deceived in me when he first saw me. He thought I couldnt stand anything, but now thinks I am "tough." The open air & much exercise on horseback agree well with my health. I generally ride one horse in the morning and the other in the afternoon when I have much riding to do. My little brown "Charlie" is still a favorite. I can ride him for hours & he will then kick up his heels & caper like a colt. He very seldom gets tired. Charlie's horse looks like a large size zebra. We want to take these horses home to shew to Guy & Grace. Perhaps Jamie would like a ride.

I know you must read the papers with anxiety. These siege operations are tedious, but I hope they will be effectual with comparatively little loss of life. You were asked about Genl McClellan. I dont like to force a hasty judgment. We might have taken Yorktown by assault, & then again we might have failed with an immense sacrifice & an utterly hopeless termination of the war. But with the steady operations of a siege we shall undoubtedly succeed unless the will of God is against us. A man is judged of much by success or failure. Genl McClellan might have done better in the selection of some of his staff, & Congress might do better than in confirming everybody as Brig. General, but I dont feel like complaining. The self-seeking, office hunting of our public men at this juncture fills me with sorrow. God sees not as we see. He does not base his government on the permanency of human institutions.

I am anxious to hear what Mr Farwell said to you in reply to your letter to him. I sent Warren Woodman's note to Rowland to give to Mrs W. One of Rowland's letters went to Roanoke & back before we got it, & the one asked me to send Warren's note to Mrs W.

I have sent my pay accounts for March to Maj Fry but hav'nt heard from them yet. I shall have to pay for a horse, 150. Will send you one hundred & keep the rest in reserve for use here.

Much love & many kisses to the children. Charlie wrote yesterday is quite well this morning. Capt Sewall got over his attack nicely. Much love & many kisses from your loving husband.

Otis

Much love to Mother if you should see her, & dont forget Aunt Sarah, Eva, Minnie & Orestes, Aunt Betsey, Frank & Adams.

1655 4/27/1862 *From:* Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: My dear Brothers [OO &
CH Howard]

OOH-1607

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

[54]

Farmington Apr. 27/62

My dear Brothers

Perry wrote a long letter to Sarah the other day, in wh. he complained bitterly of her long silence & I thought then I would write you the first opportunity. This has been a most beautiful quiet lovely Sabbath. Our church has been full, but the Spirit was not so manifestly present as in Sab's past – 24 were "propounded" to be admitted next Sab. There as more than as many more to come forward at the next communion if Satan does not catch away the seed Jesus hath sown. Our blessings have made us remember & pray for you today. So still, so solemn & so delightful has been this holy day here among Gods everlasting hills.

O how the Spirit of War conflicts with that of Jesus! I do believe that I have committed you both to God in faith, but I can not be certain till the blow falls upon you.

I preached (extempore, for three mos) on "I can do all things thru X, which strengtheneth me" this P.M. Heads (1) How He strengtheneth us. (a) By Instruction (b) By example (c) By working faith in us & presenting himself as its object (d) By constraining love (e) By Divine Union. (2) For What? All things. More particularly (a) all duty (b) all temptation (c) all Suffering & Endurance. The plan was mostly borrowed, but I do think God helped me to fill out with & feel the truths I preached, & I do hope his Spirit has gone with it. X will strengthen you for all duty. He has not called you to a work & then refused the "Sufficient Grace". How sweet to remember that every emergency has its own supernatural strength. So I look forward to your possible suffering & even death with confidence that Jesus will be with you in just the manner & to the degree your Souls need. Keep looking to Jesus, my dear Brothers. You have not yet learned a fraction of the power of a look to strengthen & Save.

"Till to Jesus'work you cling
By a living faith,
Doing is a deadly thing
Doing ends in death.
Then Cast your deadly doing down
Down at Jesus feet
Stand in Him, in Him alone,
Gloriously complete."- is as true in our Sanctification as it was in our justification.

Ella & Davie went to Bath a week ago yesterday. We moved the day before, but haven't "set-up" yet – except the "study" & one bedroom wh. I occupy. Will & Abby Jones are with me and we live about as unceremoniously as you do in Camp. Lizzie has given up Mr. Farwells house & will continue to board at Auburn, Mothers, or here. I hope she will be able to spend part of the Summer here. I long to see more of the children especially Guy. He is a great favorite at Lewiston. Ella will come home next week I hope.

I have the County Ministerial Association here a week from next Wednesday. Mr Hammond went to Lewiston yesterday. I have no doubt there will be a Revival. I saw evidences of it the Sab. I spent there. In Auburn, Christians are less awake.

Our Street is now perfectly dry, but the grass waits for rain & the buds on the maples do not look red yet. I now live amid shops & stores – no dwelling house very near. It is a noisy place, but the best I could get. Sarah is without a girl just now and kept at home – all well. John & Helen dont come to our meeting – perhaps they attend the Baptist. I enclose a letter published here from cousin Warren Woodman. He is evidently more accustomed to the sword than pen.

Two of those propounded today said, in telling their experience yesterday, that they promised dying husbands to meet them in Heaven. A Shoemaker who has become a Xtian had his Bible reading it as I entered his Shop

yesterday. He has what he calls "two terrible Universalists" at work with him & says he would be often "floored" but for taking up his Bible occasionally & reading to them out of that! He was terribly profane & passionate before his conversion, not at all so now.

Why our Army are not sent to the rear of Yorktown is the wonder of everybody, and the grief & trial of your unmilitary brother. Why you should be left to be needlessly killed in front of those intrenchments, while the Enemy, even if driven out, can safely retreat, is a mystery, & looks as if God was yet again going to answer the prayers of his children "by terrible things in Righteousness". God be more merciful to the homes of N.E. than He has seen fit to be to those of the West, is our prayer!

Next Sab. is our communion. O how much I need grace for that occasion, in some respects the most responsible of my life. 35 will unite with Mr Fiskes church next Sab. among them Hattie, & nearly all her School companions. 12 have joined the Church in Waterville, among the recent converts are Bodge & Barrell, R.R. Conductors. Willie seems less interested than he did. There are now 25 Inquirers in Winthrop. I do hope that if God permits you to enter the ministry it will be in such or even better spiritual times than these.

Dellie made me a little visit & is now at Leeds, I suppose. Our cousins Theresa Howard & her sister have lately hoped in Jesus at No. Leeds. Thank you again for all your kind letters. Every word is read with interest & pleasure. Kind regards to Capt Sewall.

Rowland

Wheres W. Woodmans note, wh. he has paid?

1656 4/30/1862 *From:* Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: Dear Sister Lizzie
[Howard]

OOH-1608

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

[118]

Farmington Apr. 30/62

Dear Sister Lizzie

I was glad to hear from you last night. I had spoken to Mrs Caswell & found that it would be inconvenient for her to take you. This morning I called on Mrs Hopkins who boards Mr Kelsey, the principal of the Acd. He leaves the 7th of June and she thinks she could take your family then. It will be nearly that time before you get ready, I suppose, & you give mother a visit in the mean time. I had no time to enter into particulars with Mrs. H. but <[torn page]> be the same as Mrs Norton's, perhaps less. You would have her parlor & bed room opening out of it and a chamber, the house is 1 1/2 stories. She is a good housekeeper. Mr H. is out of health able to do marketing &c, both are members of our church & among the most active. There is a nice large play ground, & the best children we have in the place to play with.

Plan of Farmington! [Map of Main Street, another parallel street (unnamed) and 3 cross streets, showing the locations of the houses of Rev. Mr. Howard, Mr Hopkins and Mrs Sargent.]

You will thus be pleasantly & conveniently located half way between Sarah & me! Mrs H. is a quiet industrious little woman & one of the best. She is accustomed to boarders.

Ella will come home Monday. I like your plan of going to Bath & wish E. could be there, but wish her here more! Mrs Patten will be very glad to have you come there. A letter directed Mrs Fred. D. Sewall will be sure to reach Mrs S. She lives quite a way above Capt. Patten a little off the same St. (Washington).

I hope Guy & Grace will learn a lot in the School so as not to be behind the Farmington boys & girls. I know they will like to hear Mr Hammond next Sab. P.M.

No news from Otis since yours. Love to the children.

Yr. aff. Bro.
Rowland

If you will go to Bath Monday, Ella will wait till Tues. before coming up. You'd better.
R

Please drop "Ella P. Howard" a line if you can go.