
1734 9/4/1862

From: Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: Dear Sister Lizzie
[Howard]

OOH-1686

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

[190]

Farmington Sept. 4, 1862

Dear Sister Lizzie

We received your note tonight & hope you & the children will come up Monday. Bring them all if you can, for when you get off as far as Augusta I fear we will not see you or them often. Mrs Farwell was here today and will go to Augusta tomorrow to remain till the present disturbed state of affairs is at an end. I wrote mother yesterday by Hattie Patten, but she must have forgotten the letter, or you would have learned that Sarah came home last Monday. Baby is no better that we can see.

Was very glad to get Otis address & will write him soon. Lizzie Patten is with us. We are all waked up for the war having meetings every day almost & will probably fill our quota for 9 mos this week. I am to address the people of Strong tomorrow to get volunteers.

We sent off two boxes of fruit & bandages this morn.

I would not be surprised to hear that Jackson has cut off the R.R. between Baltimore and Washington next. He is very daring. Have not heard from Perry since the 27th ult. His Brigade was then beyond Warrington Junction. This is the most desperate & I believe the last move of the Rebels now & put them down. I am strongly tempted to volunteer & were I in any other profession I should not hesitate a moment. But I have not felt it my duty yet – tho I pray God daily to show it unto me.

Your aff. Brother
Rowland

P.S.
Mr Farwell goes to Washington tomorrow.

Will you please tell Mother that we will send one can for some sour milk today if we can. I am getting hungry for a Johnny cake.

1735 9/4/1862

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1687

Head Qrs. Tenallytown,
Md.

Source: Bowdoin

[191]

Head Qrs. Tenallytown, Md.
Sept 4 1862

Dearest,

I wrote you a short letter from Camp "Confidence" near our old Camp California. We staid there one night & held ourselves in readiness to march the next day during the entire day. Just before sundown we started & marched via Alexandria northward till about midnight. Stopt near & beyond Fort Corcoran. The next morning we marched to Chain Bridge four or five miles beyond and rested till towards night, when we were ordered to take the back track to Fairfax Court house. We marched till about 8 ½, slept 4 hours & went on to Centreville, arriving about noon at our place of encampment on the N.E. slope of the Centreville heights.

The next day I was selected to make a reconaissance to the North - to the Little River turnpike, find out all I could & return. Be sure & not bring on a Grand Action. Gen Sedgwick was to support me with Gorman's brigade. We started from Camp about 7 a.m. Monday and marched some 3 miles to the north, met the enemy's Cavalry pickets - they retired, then came their infantry pickets. We pushed them with our skirmishers as hard as was prudent. I went thru a skirting of woods, following our skirmishers & was fired at two or three times, but by permission of a kind Providence was not hit. We found infantry, Cavalry & Artillery & their position and then returned to our camp that night.

We waited under arms, for our turn to retreat - started about 11 p.m., marched all night, arrived at Fairfax C.H. a little after sunrise, tuesday morning. Moved off some two miles to the north to Flint Hill & encamped. Towards night three Corps, Sigels, Porters & Sumners started via Vienna to Chain bridge. I was ordered to Command the rear Guard. I had besides my (Burns) brigade the 1st Minnesota, the 15 & 19 Mass. Regts, a Regt of Cavalry & two pieces of Arty. The enemy began to shell us when the Sun was about an hour high before the last of Sigel had passed & kept it up, till we put a stop to it. Just at dusk we placed the Arty in a good position, & supported it by infny. The rebel Cavalry came up in the woods close by when the 1st Minnesota fired & the artillery also. The enemy fired just before & fled. Our arty-horses were frightened & upset a Limber, broke one man's thigh, another was wounded with a Carbine & two more with pieces of a shell, but none mortally. We [missing page?]

This was the last of the pursuit. We had one of those sudden panics, when three were killed & several wounded, about 11 in the night. My command broke up, horses ran loose, there was firing & running. I was riding along a side path in the edge of a wood opposite one of my Regts, when the panic began. We rallied quickly & marched on, went into camp about 2 & slept till sunrise. Yesterday we marched to this place 6 miles above Washington, & will probably remain here till we gather up clothes, shoes &c.

I have just received your kind & good letter. My horse Charlie is well but has not yet appeared. Mr Whittlesey turned up today but has gone back for a day to Col Sewall below Washington. Chas, my aide has not yet arrived.

Much love to all special kisses to the children.

I dont see what made you say what you did about Rowland being near me, but it was probably because he is a brother & you thought too many relations would spoil everything.

Affectionately
Otis

1736 9/4/1862

From: O O Howard

To: Mrs O O Howard

OOH-1688

Washington DC

Source: Bowdoin

[188?]

The American Telegraph Company
North, South, East and West.

Dated Washington DC 4ct 1862
Rec'd Sept 5ct 1862
To Mrs O O Howard

I am well at Tenallytown Maryland

O.O. Howard

6/123

1737 9/5/1862

From: Addison Pool

To: Brig. Gen'l. O.O. Howard

OOH-1689

U.S. Gun Boat
'Penobscot'

Portland
Maine

Source: Bowdoin

Off Wilmington N.C.

[193]

U.S. Gun Boat 'Penobscot'
Off Wilmington N.C. Sept 5th 1862

Dear General,

I have been intending for the last few weeks, indeed, ever since I heard of your misfortune, to write you, but my duties in part and procrastination too, I fear, have kept me from it 'till the present time.

You must have had a fierce engagement the day you was wounded. From the accounts that have reached me, I should judge it to have been one of the severest fights of the war, but you did nobly, and will receive the plaudits of a grateful country.

I have desired very much to see you for the last week. I want the advice of some good christian. I have entered upon a new life, and, by the grace of God, I trust, have come to a saving knowledge of the truth, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. This state of mind has been brought about by no excitement, or influence of any kind, aside from my own conviction of sin and prayers to God for enlightenment, and as I have no one here to commune with, and there is so much I wish to say to a sympathizing heart, I have been induced to write you, as I have not only known you as a correct upright christian, but a gentleman of liberal views and feelings, just such as I most desire to converse with at this time.

One thing that troubles me now is creed. I have those feelings that would direct me to only know christians as such without any reference to minor parts of creed, or "articles of faith", yet, as I feel it my duty to connect myself with some body of Gods people, at an early opportunity, and cannot fully, with my present views, and my limited experience, assent to all the points of doctrine in any, as I now understand them, I need the enlightenment of some person, who (as I have no doubt all believers have at sometime) has passed through the same experiences and realize the same doubts as myself.

My whole desire is now to please God, and set an example before my fellow man, that may lead them to the same happy state of mind to which I have myself been brought.

Dear General, I want your prayers for myself that I may be kept in the right way and devote myself to the service of God.

Oh! what would I give for good Christian associations. But it is useless to borrow trouble about that. Perhaps Our Father may make so worthless and sinful a disciple as myself the means of bringing others to accept himself through Christ, and I may receive what I desire where I now little expect it.

We are very pleasantly situated as regards our other associations. All the officers of this vessel being gentlemen in every respect, and so far our Heavenly Father has blessed us with health. My health has very much improved since joining the Navy, and as we have a very healthy situation, I hope the change may prove to be a permanent one.

Should you write me, a letter will find me directed to this ship off Wilmington N.C.

Hoping that you may soon entirely recover from your wound, and again return to active duty in the field.

I remain, as ever
Yours respectfully & truly
Addison Pool

Brig. Gen'l. O.O. Howard
Portland

Maine

1738 9/7/1862

From: O.O. Howard

To: Dear Guy [Howard]

OOH-1690

Head Quarters Burns
Brigade

Source: Bowdoin

West of Rockville, Md.

[192]

Head Quarters Burns Brigade
Sept 7, 1862
West of Rockville, Md.

Dear Guy,

Papa wrote Mamma a letter this morning, and was ashamed because it looked so bad, but he had to hurry too much to write well. His left hand will not go fast yet. Papa thinks there will be no battle here. The enemy crossed the Potomac above here about 16 miles and have probably gone another way. We formed 3 lines with our troops & waited for the enemy, but he concluded not to come. Papa wishes uncle Charlie would come if he is well, and his horse "Charlie" has not yet come. The horse "Tige" from Mr Additon is a beautiful and kind one. He generally draws the wagon, but papa rode him on the reconnaissance at Centreville. Papa found the horse of Gen. Burns here and has ridden him most of the time. Papa has never ridden in the wagon since he left Washington. John Ivory & Mr Packard ride in the wagon, carry Provisions & bedding & valises. The shafts have both been broken short off by some unruly mules, but papa bought new ones & had them put in. Papa is now in Gen. Sedgwick's Division. His regiments are:

69th Penn.Col. Owen

71st Penn.Col. Wister

72d Penn.Col. Baxter

106 Penn.Col Morehead

Give much love to Gracie. Papa will write her the next letter. Love to all. God is very good to me my son. I am well. Be very kind to your precious Mamma. Much love to Grandpa & Grandma.

Sept 8th All well today – no battle.

Your affectionate Father
O.O. Howard

1739 9/7/1862

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1691

Head Qrs 2 miles west
of Rockville Me

Source: Bowdoin

[195]

Head Qrs 2 miles west of Rockville Md.
Sunday 7 Sept 1862

Dearest

I am well & have been, my arm pains me so little that I think little of it. We formed here to wait the Enemy but he did not come yesterday. God will be with us & you. Kiss Guy Grace & Jamie I wish he could have them with "papa" to play with. I wanted to have printed a letter to Guy & Grace but have not yet got a chance.

Much love
Affly yours from
Otis

Much love to Father & Mother. I saw Jno Kern & H. Jameson at Centreville well & looking hearty. Mr Whittlesey is on his way from Washington. Chas has not arrived.

1740 9/8/1862

From: O. O. Howard

To: Dear Gracie [Howard]

OOH-1692a

Head Quarters
Howard's Brigade
Near Rockville Md.

Source: Bowdoin

[196]

Head Quarters Howard's Brigade
Sept 8, 1862
Near Rockville Md.

Dear Gracie,

Papa wrote Guy a letter yesterday and must fulfill his promise to his little daughter to write her next. Papa is quite well to night. He is in a tent, has a camp bedstead, a good mattress, blanket, rubber-blanket. Papa has on his dressing gown and slippers. The weather is very warm and so papa keeps his tent front up. Uncle Charlie has not yet come up. Mr Whittlesey came to me with the black horse. Last Friday went away to Washington saying he should be back the next day but he did not come. There are a great many men here. General McClellan is only about a mile away. Papa is 20 miles from Washington. Can Gracie tell where her passage of Scripture is: "Love one another".

Much love to dearest Mamma, Grandma, Guy, Grandpa, Jamie & Isabella. Her brother is not near me now. I will find him when I get a chance. Good night to all.

Your affectionate Father
O. O. Howard

[A letter to Lizzie was written at the bottom of this one to Grace.]

1740 9/8/1862

From: O. O. Howard

To: Dear Gracie [Howard]

OOH-1692a

Head Quarters
Howard's Brigade
Near Rockville Md.

Source: Bowdoin

[196]

Head Quarters Howard's Brigade
Sept 8, 1862
Near Rockville Md.

Dear Gracie,

Papa wrote Guy a letter yesterday and must fulfill his promise to his little daughter to write her next. Papa is quite well to night. He is in a tent, has a camp bedstead, a good mattress, blanket, rubber-blanket. Papa has on his dressing gown and slippers. The weather is very warm and so papa keeps his tent front up. Uncle Charlie has not yet come up. Mr Whittlesey came to me with the black horse. Last Friday went away to Washington saying he should be back the next day but he did not come. There are a great many men here. General McClellan is only about a mile away. Papa is 20 miles from Washington. Can Gracie tell where her passage of Scripture is: "Love one another".

Much love to dearest Mamma, Grandma, Guy, Grandpa, Jamie & Isabella. Her brother is not near me now. I will find him when I get a chance. Good night to all.

Your affectionate Father
O. O. Howard

[A letter to Lizzie was written at the bottom of this one to Grace.]

1741 9/8/1862

From: Otis [OO Howard

To: My dearest wife [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1692b

Head Quarters
Howard's Brigade
Near Rockville Md.

Source: Bowdoin

[196]

[This letter to Lizzie was written at the bottom of one to Grace, dated Sept 8, 1862]

My dearest wife

I received your first kind letter tonight directed to corner of 12 & K Washington.

I got very weary going on, but felt quite rested when I joined Gen Sumner at Acquia Creek. But I never underwent harder campaigning in my life than I did till I got to Tennally town, sleeping on the ground, marching nearly all night for two or three nights in succession, eating what I could catch & when I could catch it, and added to this the responsibility of important commands of troops new to me, and yet I was perfectly well, rode my horse, scolded stragglers, rallied men in panic & watched the enemy every whit as well as if I had two arms. I have been greatly blessed and believe I feel thankful to God for his goodness.

After I got to Centreville I came to the conclusion that General Pope lacked some of the first principles of a good General. I am heartily glad we are back to McClellan. He will not throw us away through sheer incompetency. He is the only man yet who has the love & confidence of this entire army.

I dont see where Charlie & Mr Whittlesey are. My horse "Tige" is a nice one. I doubt not the other will suit me well enough. I can ride as well as I ever could and find no difficulty in managing horses. We do not go faster than a walk often.

Gen Sumner called me up and said last night, that he should have given me the new division just formed, but he heard that I said I would rather have a brigade in Gen Sedgwick's division & so he gave it to Gen. French. I did intimate something of the kind, that I found increased responsibility just now, but I was quite disappointed after all when I found it given away & I was not asked to take it. Now I feel it is all for the best. God knoweth what is fit & proper for me.

I do hope Jamie will keep up some sort of a recollection of his papa. Tell Guy papa would love to resign & go home, but the dear little fellow will one day rejoice that papa did not resign in this dark hour of his country. Much love & many kisses.

Affectionately

Otis

Chas says mother was not very well. How is she?

1742 9/10/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1693

Head Qrs Burns
Brigade
Middlebrook Md

Source: Bowdoin

[197]

Head Qrs Burns Brigade
Sept 10 1862
Middlebrook Md.

Dearest

We took up the march yesterday at 12 n & proceeded by a cross road to the road to Frederick and then advanced five or six miles to Middlebrook. There are none but farm houses here, yet there is a very nice brook which probably gives rise to the name of the place. Chas & Bowdoin Mr now Capt Whittlesey arrived in Camp just before the march yesterday. I was glad enough to see them. We have our Camp to the right and a little to the rear of my line, have our tents up. Yesterday Charles rode "Tige" & put the black horse in the harness. Both went well. I expect my horse "Charlie" up today. Capt Barker is quite sick in Alexandria & has not got his horses up with the division yet. Gen McClellan is now with the army in the field. We cannot help feeling well about the matter. His fortifications saved Washington & his system gives us something to hope for, and for some indescribable reason the army loves him. Pope's reckless course has brought McClellan's caution into good repute.

(Wednesday) After breakfast.

Chas is still a little lame. It troubles him to walk but not to ride. We have just got the order to march to Damascus, a place this side of Frederick. I dont know how far it is, but not more than ten miles at the outside.

Give much love to Guy. I printed him a letter & the next day one to Gracie. I shall expect an answer to both. Uncle Charlie has Jamie's <carriage> strap, & papa is now looking at it while Charlie is writing his name on it so as not to lose it. Much love to little daughter & to Jamie with kisses. I hope mother is well & also father. It takes a good while darling, for a letter to get to me. I hope it is not so with you. My letters are probably not so delayed. I find I write now with comparative ease, though not yet very fast. My arm does not ache very much. I find no difficulty in riding or in mounting. I have taken Mr Culkand as my private secretary and shall have him write all other letters but yours & those that I dont want inspected except by the one written to. You must tell Guy that the Lord is papa's shepherd & papa will not want. The whole army is pressing up the river and so I suppose the rebels are ahead of us in force. Good bye my precious wife till the next camp. God will ever care for us.

Yr aff. husband
Otis

1743 9/10/1862 *From:* E Waite

To: Mrs Lizzie Howard

OOH-1694

Portland

Source: Bowdoin

[198]

Portland Sept 10th 1862

Mrs Lizzie Howard

Dear Niece

Your letter of 4th inst was recvd last evening. We were very glad to hear from you and learn that you and the children were well, and that you had just recvd news from your dear Husband. I pray that he may be preserved to return again to his home and his family in safety.

Should you conclude to come to Portland to purchase your furniture and carpets, we should be pleased to assist you in any way we could. If you should need the money due you from me, you can have it as well as not. We are all quite well.

With love to your self and children.

Your Affectionate Uncle

E Waite

1744 9/17/1862 *From:* Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: Dear Sister Lizzie
[Howard]

OOH-1695

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

[199]

Farmington Sept. 17/62

Dear Sister Lizzie

Not hearing from you Monday I hesitated about sending your goods but finally concluded to send them to the Depot yesterday & they will start for Augusta this morn.

Guy is having a nice time & has not decided whether he will go home with Grandma today or not. Chas wrote a little in his letter received last night on last Sunday morn just before the battle. They were as well as usual then.

In haste but, affy. Yours
Rowland

1745 9/21/1862 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: Dearest [OO Howard]

OOH-1696

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[201]

Augusta Sept 21st 1862

Dearest,

It is now just four o'clock Sunday afternoon. I went to church this morning with Mrs Stinson, but it is such a long walk I thought I would not try to go the second time. I did not get the telegram you sent me, but saw it in the Lewiston Journal which did as well. I suppose it went to Leeds and was not remailed to me. I shall get it the first of the week and I hope a letter with it. You may continue to send letters to Leeds. I shall be there myself the last of this week and after that I shall go to Portland and back to Leeds before taking the children here. I have been thinking all day how thankful I ought to be to hear good news from you, for all do not get good news.

I am at Mrs Lemonts, and from my window I can look directly over to the Arsenal. I recall with pleasure our stay there, how we walked over the ground, and fished from the dock, and Malloch, and the little black pony, and "old Ben". We have had many rides after them all. I remember how often you used to come up into my chamber to see little Guy and tell him who inquired about him 'over the river' and called him the young Lieut. But that wasn't war times. If it was all the battles were fought at home.

I saw Miss Susan Brooks on the street. Everybody here is very servile and attentive to me, ready to help me in any way. Charles Mulliken brought me home to tea last evening. I was very tired as I had been at the house all day, then I had to go down town, and as I was leaving his store and the horse was there I told him a ride would be a great blessing.

Gen Hodsdon went home in the train to Bangor. His wife, daughter, and little son will spend the winter here. His daughter was engaged to Senator Fessenden's son that was fallen lately. They attended his funeral in Portland. Rev. Mr McKinsey who preaches in Mr Webb's church buried his mother last week. Rev Wheelock Craig (Dr Briggs son-in-law) preached to-day. Did'nt we meet one of Dr Briggs son-in-laws on board the Boston boat once, and was he not a Unitarian then? I am under that impression.

I have torn out this paragraph and enclose it to let you know this is the only thing I have seen published of Sedgwick's division - not very comforting. But your dispatch makes it all right.

I am very anxious to get a letter from you. I think you must have had a very hard time, since you have been in the field this time. I know you have had hard, responsible and exposed positions. I am anxious to learn how you stand it.

I hope Charlie is quite well by this time. Much love to him. I hav'nt written to you very often of late. I must try to do better. Your letters are not long in reaching me. Your last received was mailed or rather was finished, I did not notice the Post mark, Wednesday and I got it at Leeds the following Monday, the day before I came down here. I know I must have another one there by this time.

I am glad I came to Mrs Lemonts. I find it very quiet and pleasant. I have been to supper since writing the above and I will now finish my letter. I have been reading "Hymns of the Ages" to-day. They are perfect gems. I don't suppose you have much time for reading.

I do want a letter from you very much. I wrote to Leeds yesterday to have them send me letters from you if there were any. I don't want you to think I am working hard. I have been here since Wed. and yesterday was the first day I had worked any. I unpacked dishes. Other days I looked on merely and told what I wanted done. Before this letter reaches you the house will be I trust in quite good order, so do not, dearest, please have any anxiety about me, but take care of yourself if only for my sake.

Lizzie.

I sent a poor picture in my last letter.

1746 9/21/1862 *From:* Eliza Gilmore

To: Charles Howard

OOH-1697

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[200]

Leeds Sept 21st 1862

My Dear Son,

I have reason to return thanks to God, that my sons have been saved from the terrible weapons of war while so many have fallen a sacrifice to this awful rebellion. I have received your good and long letter finished on the Sabbath at the commencement of the last weeks battles. Otis's dispatch has reached us, so that we know you are both safe.

I have written to Rodelphus this evening and shall not attempt only a beginning of your's. I was at Farmington when I received your letter as you anticipated so that we enjoyed it together. Monday eve I went to F - the Association commenced its cession Tues 2 o'clock P.M. When I went into the church the services had commenced. There was a Social meeting prayer and exhortation. About an hour was devoted the reading of some of the letters of communication from various churches of that association and then the regular service began with singing and prayer and an introductory sermon by the Reverend Mr Pepper of Waterville, from the text "It is impossible for God to lie". It was a very able sermon showing the Bible to be the word of God and criminality of not believing it. At 5 o'clock the meeting adjourned until 7, eve when it commenced with a prayer meeting and some letters read and then a sermon by Mr Skelton of west Waterville. His was a very able and interesting sermon.

It is now time for me to stop. Good night.

Sabbath morning Sept 26th.

Dear Charlie

Last evening brought us your good long letter written on the Sabbath, for which I hope I am truly thankful. It was written in pencil, was received in due time as also the dispatch from Otis. My letter commenced one week ago. I certainly expected would have gone in Tuesday's mail, but the past week has been one those unaccountable weeks of mine, of which my life is subject.

Corah's sister broke her arm and she must go home.

We had an appointment of soldier's aid society, on Tuesday's P.M. and it has gone on from day and evening, and now another sabbath our soldier's aid society is prospering more than I expected. We met on Friday evening and found there had been about twenty dollars collected besides many other comforts. We hope to send off a box this week. O! How much I hope these donations will go where they are designed. They are sending all the time now through the Sanitary Mission.

Mr Chapin is thinking of going to the hospitals as nurse. There are proposals from government to men for nurses. I think he will be a good one.

I shall not attempt to give you a detailed account of our Association as I at first intended, but will say I was rejoiced that I had the privilege of meeting with so many good praying people and to be one to join in prayer to Almighty God for every good work. Rowland took part in all the prayer meeting. He expressed his admiration of the sermons. Mr Rowe the new Baptist minister from Augusta preached one sermon. Mr Skelton from West Waterville one, Mr Nugent one and the baptist minister from Fayette one, one hour for Prayer for our country particularly was taken up, in which Rowland took part thursday morning. Oh it must be that God has a people here on earth that are taught by his Spirit. When will they prevail?

Lizzie has not returned from Augusta yet.

Sabbath evening

I have been out to Church to day. The Reverend Mr Fogg an old Baptist minister preached in the morning. His sermon reminded me of Mr Rogers of Farmington. He dwelt much on the law of God. It was very interesting to me. Mr Chapin was very interesting this P.M.

Grace attended Church with me. I left Guy at Farmington. He was very anxious to stop and his Uncle and Aunt and Lizzie Patten, all were desirous to have him stay. In Lizzie's last letter to Grace said she should go to Farmington in the stage, and take Guy home with her. Jamie is trying to talk. Grace and Jamie are asleep. Jamie saw a picture to day. Said papa a number of times with a shout.

Everything is perfectly healthy. I was glad you mentioned George Bates in your letter. Augusta Jennings, Columbus Jennings daughter, died last Monday with diptheria a short sickness of a few days. We have had letters from Sarah since her arrival at Brooklyn and placed her little ones in the lot with her husband.

With much love to Otis and large share to yourself I remain your affectionate mother.

Eliza Gilmore

Charles Howard

P.S. My health is good now. September has been a beautiful month. All kinds of vegetables are ripening very nicely – tomatoes never were so nice.

E. Gilmore

1747 9/22/1862 *From:* Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: Dear Sister Lizzie
[Howard]

OOH-1698

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

[202]

Farmington Sept. 22/62

Dear Sister Lizzie

Guy wishes me to answer your letter which he received tonight & tell you that he would like to stay here awhile if you are willing. He thought he would go to School this P.M. & seems to have enjoyed it. He is perfectly well – sleeps with Lizzie – rides with me – works with Mr Bachus & plays with some little friends that he has made. He wears his plaid suit to School & his old clothes at home. We love to have him here but he can go to Leeds any day you may wish it. He enjoyed your letter & I read him all about his Papa in the papers. How grateful we should be to God that our dear ones escaped when so many fell in that terrible battle!

Sarah writes that she made her journey well & has deposited her precious dust beside the other precious ones who went before.

Mrs Patten is here – all would send love but are abed. Mr Gilbraith went thro here today. He saw you in Augusta P.O. & you called him Mr. Brown & at the moment he did not recognise you. Wished me to apologize – says he ordered some vegetables sent you from Arsenal Garden. Mrs Farwell is here now. I hope you will get on well “setting up”.

Your aff. Brother
Rowland

1748 9/23/1862 *From:* Isabella Curtis

To: Dear Mrs [Lizzie] Howard

OOH-1699

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[203]

Leeds Sept 23rd /62

Dear Mrs Howard

Your dispatch came to Lewiston on Friday but too late for the mail. They were going to bring it here that night with a team but Mr Hicks thought it too bad for you to pay so much and told them to leave it with him and he would send it to you and he did but by mistake directed his letter to North Leeds and we did not get it till Sunday. There was no way to send it yesterday. We thought it not worth while to send Mr Hicks letter.

Your letters to the children came safe. Grace was very much pleased to receive hers. Guy has not yet returned from Farmington. He begged so hard to stay and his uncle and the rest wanted him to stop so much that his Grandmother concluded to let him remain over Sunday.

Yesterday a letter came to you from Rowland asking you if Guy might not stop there till he went to Augusta. His Grandmother thinks he can stay till we hear from you. Then we will let him know.

Grace and Jamie are both well and seem happy and contented. Grace says tell mama that Isabella says that I have been a very good girl and she sends you one sweet kiss and will be glad to see you. Jamie says a great deal about mama's dress which hangs up in the bedroom. I washed what clothes we had dirty yesterday.

Guy's letter was sent to him on Saturday. Received a letter from Charles last night – were very happy to hear of their welfare. Mrs G. sends her love to you.

In haste yours with much love
Isabella Curtis

1749 9/23/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1700

Head Quarters
Howard's Divn
Harper's Ferry Va.

Source: Bowdoin

[205]

Head Quarters Howard's Divn
Sept 23. 1862
Harper's Ferry Va.

Dearest,

Yesterday Gen. Sumner marched his Corps from the battle ground at Sharpsburg to Sandy Hook and here we found the R.R. Bridge & the Ponton bridge destroyed. After waiting for Gen. Sumner to select his encampment for about an hour, we then got word to cross the distance by a ford just above Harper's Ferry. The water part of the way was a little more than knee deep. My division crossed first, then Hancock's formerly Richardson's in which is my old Brigade, & then Gen. French's.

This country is as rugged as the highlands of the Hudson & the scenery very peculiar. It looks much like that near West Point. [Hand drawn sketch of a map of the area around Harper's Ferry and the placement of the various divisions.] I have given you a little sketch just to show you the relative position of things. Harpers Ferry is right where the two rivers join & the buildings or the ruins of them even the Armory & its dependencies & little else. After you get up from the river on this bank is quite a little village & I should think a pretty one before the war. Passing the village westward about a half mile you come to what are called "Bolivar heights", a hill running from river to river and making with the two rivers a kind of triangle thus: [Small sketch showing the Potomac and the Shenandoah rivers, Harper's Ferry, the mountains behind Harper's Ferry, B. Heights and the placements of the 3 Union Corps, Howard's, Hancock's & French's.] My head quarters are near a little brick house in which a Mr Sayle & wife & daughter and two old people live. He used to work in the shops run under Major Symington. All the people I believe but one man were for the Union. Poor people, they have now no shops & no occupation. You never saw such utter ruin & desolation as Harpers Ferry presents, & Bolivar is but little better.

Mr now Capt. Whittlesey is as I knew he would be a perfect jewel to me. Charlie is troubled with one of "Job's comforters". Poor Job, now he has afflicted the human race.

I don't know whether you are at Augusta or not.

An Aide of Gen. Caldwell is now waiting for this letter. We are well. Much love to Guy, Grace & Jamie. George Bates I saw Sunday & well. Love to all.

Affectionately
Otis

1750 9/25/1862

From: W.H. Owen
A.Q.M.
Alexandria, Va

To: Brig. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-1701

Source: Bowdoin

[204]

Alexandria, Va
Sept 25. 1862

Dear General,

I wrote you from the General Hospital at Point Lookout, Md., directing to Maine, not knowing or suspecting that you had so soon rejoined the Army.

I had understood that you were to have a new Brigade & I asked the favor of being your Quartermaster if one had not already been assigned you.

I do not desire to serve any longer in the Brigade in which I now am if I can help it. Gen. Ingalls has promised to transfer me to any vacant Brigade I will indicate.

There is no General in the Army with whom I should so soon serve as yourself.

If you have a vacancy & want me, I am at your service.

I am at present off duty & settling up my accounts, which got behind during my sickness. If I can avoid it I do not desire to return to Birney's Brigade at all .

If it is out of your power to have me yourself, perhaps you will recommend me to some Commander of Division wanting a quartermaster. I should like very well to be relieved from the severer duties of a Brigade, from which my health suffered somewhat, on the Peninsula.

Please answer immediately & address me at this place – care Capt. C.B. Ferguson, A.Q.M., U.S. Army.

Very truly
Your friend
W.H. Owen
A.Q.M.

Brig. Gen. O.O. Howard

1751 9/26/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1702

Head Quarters Bolivar
Heights
Sept 26 1862

Source: Bowdoin

[206]

Head Quarters Bolivar Heights
Sept 26 1862

Dearest,

I wrote Guy a letter today and this evening I had the happiness to get a letter from you, after you had seen the dispatch in the Lewiston Journal. Mrs Whittlesey saw or heard of the dispatch the day I sent it. I am glad you all got word so soon, for I feared that my messenger to Hagerstown was not a good one as he had a bottle of whiskey with him & swore a great deal. Mrs Whittlesey spoke of your being in Brunswick & commends your cheerful faith & wishes she had as much. It is a singular providence if you two were together on the very day of the battle.

Gen Sumner visited the Division today & complimented us on our good & cleanly appearance. I notice that "<Anthton>" of the Boston Journal speaks of <miss> connection with the Division. I did work very hard that day to keep the men together. Gen Sumner tried a movement & nobody knew in the beginning what he wanted to do. He faced my troops before he let me know & they were broken or nearly so almost immediately. I worked & so did Genl Sumner & the rest us. We did'nt go far & many of the regiments did'nt break at all, but oh how many of these brave men were left dead on the field. Was'nt the Lord merciful to me & mine.

I was glad indeed to get your picture, if you did look a little sorry and about that tooth. My arm does not trouble me. John Ivory sleeps in my tent helps me wash & dress, put on belt, spurs &c. Charles took quite a long walk today. He seems to be quite well.

Capt Joseph Smith, who came out as our commissary Sergeant & was afterwards made Capt. in the Com. Dept. & has been with Gen. Sedgwick ever since, he is with me. Capt Bachelder of N.H. is my Quartermaster and Lieut. Whittier & Chas my aides. Lieut Steel is my Ord. Officer. We have a very pleasant mess. Mr Packard got over-worked & sick & started for New York to recruit his health. If I get time I shall write Gracie tomorrow.

Papa sends lots of love & kisses to all the children. We have our circle of prayer, all the loved ones at home are remembered. Pray for us darling, that we fall not into temptation. Pray for papa children.

Major Sedgwick was as he supposed mortally wounded, while lying on the field under fire, he wrote in his note book, his good bye to his wife & family now in Germany, and said, he had prayed God to forgive him his sins. He is still very poorly. He has a slight chance of getting up. Gen Sedgwick has gone to his home in Connecticut. The Major's mother & sister are with him at Keedysville [Md]. Col Barlow is getting better. Gen Richardson's case is yet critical. I feel a redoubled anxiety that this war should be brought to a close. I have learned that Gen Pope has the reputation of being a liar, a profane swearer, & he certainly is a braggart and a failure. I feel troubled that I should so unadvisedly have endorsed him. I am now glad he has gone overboard & hope God may spare us from such men.

Good night, God's blessing rest with you my dearest wife.

Yrs affectionately
Otis

Much love to Mother & Father & kind regards to Isabella.

1752 9/26/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dear Guy [Howard]

OOH-1703

Head Quarters
Howard's Divn
Harpers Ferry

Source: Bowdoin

[207]

Head Quarters Howard's Divn
Harpers Ferry Sept 26, 1862

My dear Guy

Mamma wrote papa a letter and told him she thought you and Grace would be pleased quite as well to receive a written letter as a printed one. Perhaps so, now that you are almost old enough to write and to read writing. I heard that Susan was married, to an engineer Soldier & gone to St. Louis. I cannot remember the man's name. He is not now in the army and is I hear a good man.

Papa now commands a Division, ie three Brigades, four regiments in two of them and five in the other. Gen Gorman has the first Brigade, Gen Dana, the 2nd or rather Col. Lee of the 20th Mass. as Gen. Dana was wounded and has gone away. Gen Burns is still at home with his wound and Col Baxter of the 72nd Penn Volunteers commands his brigade; it is the one that papa had till the last battle, called the battle of Antietam. Papa has also two Batteries, Lieut Kirby with his six guns & Capt. Tompkins with his six guns. Do you remember Mr Kirby at West Point? You must remember Genl Sedgwick. He was wounded like papa in the wrist and also in the neck.

Papa was again where the bullets flew pretty fast, so was Uncle Charlie, but God was able to take care of us and did so. Papa rides his horse "Charlie" now on all occasions. He is as nice as ever, a little more quiet than he used to be. Papa finds no trouble in getting on. Somebody must have whispered in "Charlie's" ear that papa now had but one arm. May be he looked & saw it himself. He looks cross at strangers and I feel afraid he dont like little boys, but when you come to feed him with something he likes to eat, he will overcome his naughty prejudices.

Mamma went away to Augusta & left you all, in order to fix up a place to put us in. Papa wants the war to be over, so that he may come home & live with you all. He hopes to spend many happy days with your dear mamma & his little children. They must be good and learn all they can while they are young. Papa wants his children to be the followers of Christ. Guy you must have a fixed purpose to do right & God will help you.

Uncle Charlie is still a little lame, but I think improving. The weather is still very pleasant, but the nights are cold & the ground very dry. Much love to Grandma. How is she, pretty well? Uncle Charlie thought she was not well when he came away. And Isabella, how is she and does she hear from her wounded & noble brother? I hope he has got well before this. And Grandpa we cant forget him. Is he reading his paper or working in the fields?

Perhaps when you get this you will be already at your new house in Augusta. You must then tell me how you like & what you see. Do you think that you and Gracie love each other as much as you ought. You give her papa's love he will write her just as soon as he can. Papa was very happy to get Mamma's picture, if it did look a little sorry. And Jamie, - I wonder if he will look at Papa when he comes home; you know he wouldnt when he went away. Give papas love to the boy & a good kiss.

With love & kisses to all and a prayer for God's blessing upon you. I say good bye.

Your affectionate papa
Otis

1753 9/27/1862 *From:* O.O. Howard

To: My dear little daughter
[Grace Howard]

OOH-1704a

Source: Bowdoin

Head Quarters
Howard's Divn
Bolivar Heights near
Harpers
Ferry

[209]

Head Quarters Howard's Divn.
Bolivar Heights near Harpers
Ferry Sept 27, 1862

My dear little daughter

I wrote Guy a letter yesterday and Mamma one last evening and as I have some spare time this morning I will say a few words to you. Mamma went away to Augusta & left her three little children and papa dont know whether she has got back or not. If she has not perhaps Grandma can read this.

Papa & uncle Charlie are now together in papa's tent. Uncle is pretty well & so is papa. Papa's arm aches a little now and then, but never enough to make him cry. Tell Mamma that papa feels like crying this morning, for when he went to the top of his trunk where her letter & miniature were put and could not find them. All the searching and shaking out of coats & shirts have done no good. They cannot be found. <[Bottom line is missing -page torn.]> Perhaps it can be found yet.

John Ivory and Mr Packard lost papa's nice dressing case out of the wagon. John kept it out of the trunk on the trunk so that he could get at it easily, & when he did not know it, it was jolted out. Papa has bought another but it is not the one Mamma gave him.

Have the apples got ripe? What does Gracie find to do every day? Does that little chubby boy Jamie remember his papa think you? I have some more questions to ask. Does little Lizzie Gilmore ever go up & play with you? Tell me all you can think about Grandpa, Grandma & Isabella. If you can tell me something really good about Guy, you must write it to me. I think Jamie must be able to talk a great deal by this time. You can hardly think what a terrible battle we had. Papa longs for peace. He wishes the rebels would stop & go home & not destroy this country any further.

Give much <> to all <> pray for papa every day & pray her little prayer, "O God for Christs sake give me thy Holy Spirit". How much papa wishes Gracie to be very kind to Guy & Jamie, and cheerfully obedient to Mamma. When papa comes home wont we then have a nice & happy little home? Papa hopes that time is not far off, but he must do the work that God gives him to do.

Perhaps you will be down to Augusta at your new home, when Mamma has put down the carpets and put up the curtains. You must tell papa all about the new home and what little friends you find there. I hope you may find as good and lovely a teacher as Miss Lottie Adams was.

Much love from your papa.
O.O. Howard

[A letter from Otis to Lizzie followed the above letter to Grace.]

1754 9/27/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dearest wife [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1704b

Source: Bowdoin

Head Quarters
Howard's Divn
Bolivar Heights near
Harpers
Ferry

[207]

[Head Quarters Howard's Divn
Bolivar Heights near Harpers
Ferry Sept 27, 1862]

[This letter to Lizzie from Otis followed a letter to Grace.]

My dearest wife.

<[first line missing –bottom of page cut off.]> since yesterday. The days are warm the nights autumnal. Charlie is quite well. Capt W the same. McClellan is trying to fill up the old Regiments. The enemy are very quiet & in the vicinity of Winchester. Much love to Mother. She will feel a little lonely I fear after you go and she musnt fail to visit you at Augusta it will do her good. I saw Mr Ames & Prof. Chamberlain the other day with their new Regt. They were not engaged with the enemy. Tell Mother Dr Horatio Howard Surg. of the 10th Me comes to see us frequently. He is the son of my father's cousin Charles & seems to be an excellent young man. I think we met Mr Craig on the Boston boat, but he never was a Unitarian. The Dr used to incline that way.

God bless & strengthen you & me.

Yr aff. husband

<Otis [Bottom line of page cut off.]>

1755 9/27/1862

From: John L. Hodsdon
Adjutant General
State of Maine
Head Quarters,
Adjutant General's
Office
Augusta

To: Genl Oliver O. Howard

OOH-1705

Source: Bowdoin

[210]

[Letterhead]
State of Maine
Head Quarters,
Adjutant General's Office
Augusta

Sept. 27th 1862

Genl Oliver O. Howard,
My dear Sir,

You are aware that I cannot in my official capacity require of you for publication in my annual report or other use the whole, or indeed any portion of your military history since being commissioned under the United States Government. Yet justice to yourself and your family and friends, as well as to your State, demands the same public recognition of your services by this department that will be accorded to those serving under the authority of the broad seal of the Pine Tree State.

The accompanying circular letter addressed to the commanding officers of all regiments and corps in the service of Government from this State may afford you some indication of the general character of the information required.

In your case it should be confined principally to events of a nature personal to yourself, except so far as your command is concerned. It should not be limited to last December but may properly embrace the entire period of your career since first entering service.

A full response hereto early in November for the State printer will insure its publication with my annual report, and greatly oblige,

Your obedient servant,
John L. Hodsdon
Adjutant General

1756 9/30/1862

From: Lt. S. P. Lee

To: Dear Otis [OO Howard]

OOH-1706

Source: Bowdoin

Staff Gen Birney
1st Div 3d Corps
Near Fairfax Seminary
Alexandria Va

[211]

Head Quarters 1st Div 3d Corps
Near Fairfax Seminary Rd
Sept 30th 1862

Dear Otis

I see by the papers that you are in command of Gen Sedgwick's Division during his absence. And it is the general opinion here that you are the man to fill his place, so I suppose you will soon have a Division.

We have been here since our return from Centreville. Gen Birney has two Brigades (Berrys & Roberson's) of infantry, one of Cavalry & 5 Batterys under his command. Gen Stoneman was assigned to the division but when he reported was ordered with our Brigade (Birneys) to nearly Poolsville where he has been ever since.

I sopose you have heard that Sarah lost her Babe and that she took Jimmie & the Babes coffin to Brooklyn and laid them beside their fathers in Green Wood. She was in New York a week and came on to see me and is now here with me. Our Hd Qrs are in <Bishop> Johns house. It is a beautiful place. Mrs Birney & her daughter is here & Sarah & Frank. I am enjoying her visit much and hope it will do her good. She seems in good spirits. She will remain a few days longer and visit Maria at Philadelphia for a week or more before she returns home.

Now I will come to the business point of my letter. At the Battle of Chantilly the day I saw you at Centreville I had my Black horse shot and in presenting my claim to Government for payment I find that there is no official notice at the Adjutant Generals office that I have been duly mustered into the U.S. Service and so cannot collect the loss without it. I informed them that I was mustered in by you at Clermont the 31st July 1861 and took affidavit to that effect which I think was the case and if you remember it and will send me a certificate to that effect I can get the pay for my horse. If you will do so at the earliest moment you will greatly oblige me as I am greatly in want of the money to buy me another horse.

Give my love to Charlie also remember me to Mr Whittlesey. Sarah sends love to you all. Please direct to me,
Lt. S. P. Lee
Staff Gen Birney
1st Div 3d Corps
Near Fairfax Seminary Alexandria Va

with love I am your
affectionate cousin
Perry

P.S. Capt Lakeman is Lt Col 3d Me. Burt still Major and I am going to be Capt of Co. E. but do not want to go back to such a mean Regt.