
1758 10/1/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1707b

H'd Q'rs 2d Div.
Sumner's Corps
Bolivar Heights Va

Source: Bowdoin

[212]

H'd Q'rs 2d Div. Sumner's Corps
Bolivar Heights Va

[This letter from Otis to Lizzie on 10/1/1862 was appended to the letter from Charles to Lizzie on the same date.]

Wednesday Oct 1 1862

Dearest

For two days past I have been on "Boards & Courts of Inquiry" & have not written. I hav'nt time to read what Chas has written but presume he has written you a good long & specific letter. He is'nt very well. We wish you are quite well. We heard of the death of Major Sedgwick last night to our great sorrow.

Give much love to all. Many kisses to our dear little children. God bless you all.

Your aff. husband
Otis

1757 10/1/1862

From: Charles [CH
Howard]

To: My dear Lizzie [Howard]

OOH-1707a

H'd Q'rs 2d Div.
Sumner's Corps
Bolivar Heights Va

Source: Bowdoin

[212]

H'd Q'rs 2d Div. Sumner's Corps
Bolivar Heights Va.
Oct. 1st 1862

My dear Lizzie

Otis is busy this morn, but just remarked to me that he would like to have letter go to you this morning.

I am not fit for much else than writing letters & it remains to be proved whether I will do for that.

I have not been able to ride for more than a week owing to a Boil caused by over-much riding about the time of the battle & consequently I have taken almost no exercise as I do not yet walk with much ease. The result is a billious attack & threatening fever. But by careful dieting during a few days past & a thorough course of medicine from Dr Palmer I have no doubt will be successful in throwing it off. In fact I am better this morning.

Otis is on a Court of Inquiring in reference to the conduct of Gen. Caldwell at the battle of Antietam. Otis is president of the Court. Previous to this he was on another Court.

He seems well as usual - active & untiring as ever. We are always a little disappointed when a mail comes without a letter from you. Last night, Otis had 3 or 4 but none from you. One from Owen soliciting the place of Qr. Mr. somewhere in Otis' command - saying he had got very tired of being with Birney. One reference to Capt. Barker, our former Qr. Mr. who is very sick at Washington & wished much to see "the General". Another contained a circular from Genl Hodsdon asking for an account of his command & some history of himself since he entered the service.

We have had very hot weather for a few days past. It is probable we will remain here at least a week more undisturbed. The R.R. bridge will not be finished till then. Otis said at the Breakfast table this morning that he received intimations last night that we were going to Ft. Hamilton. I at once suggested that it must have been in his dreams & he "Owned up" that that was the way the intimations came.

Lt. Kirbie, in command of a battery, is attached to this Div. We often see him tho till since the battle he had been away sick.

Mrs. Maj. Morris (now Brig Gen) & daughter called, with her son who is attached to a battery in this Corps to see Otis night before last. She was full of flattering commendations of Otis. Had considerable to say of Poor Hazzard - who I suppose you know died at last.

Maj. Lawrence 61st N.Y. who came from Washington day or two ago says there is talk there that Otis will be made a Maj. General. There is a rumor here that Gen. Sumner is going to ask to be relieved from this Corps desiring to have a command somewhere where he will be distinct & separate - thinking he does not get justice under McClellan. In case this takes place Sedgwick will probably have this Corps which we would like much.

Maj. Sedgwick A.A.G. to Gen. S. died night before last near Keedysville from his wounds. His mother & sister were with him, but his wife is on her way from Europe home, where she had been travelling.

I have invited Rowland to come & see us while we are here but I haven't much hope that he will be able to. Give much love to Guy & Grace & a kiss from both to Jamie for me. Is Jamie well? We heard from you thro' Rowland's last letter who saw Mr Gilbraith of the Arsenal the day before who brought the latest news from you at Augusta.

It is mail time. Love to Mother. Hope to hear from her soon.

Your affectionate brother
Charles

[Appended to the letter from Charles to Lizzie on 10/1/1862, was one from Otis to Lizzie on the same date.]

1759 10/2/1862 *From:* Edward N. Packard *To:* Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-1708

Biddeford

Source: Bowdoin

[214]

Biddeford Oct 2nd 1862.

Gen. Howard
Dear Sir,

I left you, as you remember, on the morning of the last great battle at Antietam with the expectation of making my way to Frederick on the same day. The wagons were unaccountably delayed and I remained quite near the field through the day, glad enough at its close to learn of your safety and that of your Staff. On Friday morning I made out to walk to Hagerstown, in default of conveyance, and was delayed there over night in the cattle cars, by the movements of Pennsylvania militia. I succeeded in getting to Harrisburg on Saturday night and spent a quiet Sabbath there. Monday morning at 8 o'clock I got to New York and found my brother without trouble. A week spent under his care quite transformed me, and at its close I found myself quite well from the lingering illness that had so completely unfitted me for duty in Camp.

It was by his advice that I concluded not to return and renew the experiment of the Army in which, I am free to confess, I found myself out of place. Our life there was such a sudden and entire change from my quiet mode of existence before that I can't wonder at my sickness. I am confident that the life would have grown easier and that I might have become hardened to it in time, but I doubt whether my nature and education would have ever fitted me for it. Some seem to be born for it while others find themselves entirely out of their reckoning. Doubtless my poor health gave a sickly color to the profession of arms and made me a poor judge of what was best. I find however that some of my friends had predicted a failure for me and I now have to humiliate myself in fulfilling their auguries. The time had come for me to enlist if I remained, and when I left there were only Penna. Troops under your command. Moreover just at this time I am obliged to be earning money for the immediate payment of debts incurred at College, and tho' in time I might have got a satisfactory position in that respect, it was just in the interim that I needed it most.

I only hesitated about leaving lest I should appear to slight your kindness in opening a way for me into the Army. My own pleasant relations to you would prevent, I hope, any such construction, yet to make the matter clear I have given you every reason I could think of, for my course.

I found our family all well. Father wishes you a "God speed", and thanks you for your kindness to me throughout my absence. Please remember me to your staff especially to your brother and Capt. Whittlesey. It is my prayer that God may take care of you and restore you in due time to home and friends.

Very respectfully & truly yours.
Edward N. Packard

1760 10/4/1862 *From:* Guy [Howard]

To: Dear Papa [OO Howard]

OOH-1709

Source: Bowdoin

[215]

Oct. 4. 1862

Dear Papa

I came home while Mama and Grace were eating their supper. I took tea with Jimmie Stinson. I will go to school soon. I wish to learn to write. Papa I like very much to have you write to me.

I am glad you did not get wounded in the battle. I do want always to do right. I like to live at Augusta. Jamie talks more than he did. Give my love to uncle Charlie. Grace has not received the letter you spoke of.

I send a kiss to you.

From Guy

1761 10/4/1862 *From:* Grace [Howard]

To: Dear Papa [OO Howard]

OOH-1710

Source: Bowdoin

[216]

Oct. 4. 1862.

Dear Papa

Mama Guy and I are at Augusta now.

We have a nice home. Do you think you will come and see us some day.

Thank you for your long printed letter but you can make writing letters just as well.

My school is on this street. I shall go soon. I dont know any little girls here yet. Guy is reading a story out loud to mother. It is most my bedtime.

Good night, Papa
From Grace

1763 10/5/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1711

Head Qrs. Bolivar
Heights

Source: Bowdoin

[217]

Head Qrs. Bolivar Heights
Oct 5 1862

Dearest

It is Sunday afternoon & about Quarter past two. Your kind & affectionate letter came announcing that you had gone to Leeds to take Guy & Grace with you to Augusta & that you intended leaving on thursday following i.e. on thursday last. I feel sorry that so much time must pass before you get a letter from me at Augusta. There must have been several on their way to Leeds though, when you left.

For several days I have been on "Boards" and "Courts of Inquiry" From ten till one & then from three till sunset. This taken with the other business I had to attend to connected with the Division, just about used me up, but now I hope we are through. Our Court of inquiry was about Genl. Caldwell, who has my old Brigade. Col Cross resigned stating that he would not serve under an officer who had shown such want of courage and capacity on the battle-field of Antietam. Genl Caldwell immediately asked for & was granted a court. We cleared the Genl from the charges which I think arose from Camp rumors.

Capt Bulloch visited me today and showed me the miniatures of his wife & sister. So I took another persevering look for my lost picture but it could not be found. Why wont you send me my little locket of you & Gracie. It would'nt hurt papa's feelings a whit to have Guys & Jamie's also.

This morning at 11 a.m. We had services in the vicinity of my Hd. Qrs., there being but one chaplain in the Div'n, Mr Harris - he preached to all of the Division who were disposed to come & hear him. Mrs Col Lee, Col. Wm Raymond Lee's wife from Massachusetts was at the service. Capt Pell the Provost Marshall came in just here & interrupted me. That's the trouble somebody comes in & I feel obliged to be polite.

Gen French who now has a division gave an invitation to all of us to attend at 4 P.M. I was glad of this & went. A very good Chaplain from Conn. preached to a large body of men. A band, we dont have bands any more except by private subscription, a band was there with a new regiment.

Oh, I should like to look in upon our new home, why dont it look like home. I expect it is because the children were not there. You know it takes papa & the rest of the children to make musick. Is it so darling. A good time is coming. I feel sure of this, dont you? I think my health has been wonderfully preserved, and I believe that God is enabling me & mine to exert an influence for Christ though I fear the harsher & sterner qualities of my nature are called so much into requisition as to become habitual. Oh, these stragglers, these bad men, Mr Whittlesey, what a priceless friend. Col. Sewall has been assigned to my command and is encamped near me. He is in Genl Gorman's Division. It is a good Regt. Thomas is here, Col S. says the best man he knows.

A heart full of love for my little wife & precious children. Pray for me.

Much warm hearted Christian sympathy for Mrs Stinson. Regards to Charlie M [Mulliken] & the rest. I jumped into Gen Sedgwick's shoes & had all that was left of his staff.

God bless you.

Affectionately your husband
Otis

Charlie made a lovely walk with me tonight, is pretty well.

1764 10/6/1862 *From:* Ella P. H. [Ella
Patten Howard]

To: My dear Lizzie [Howard]

OOH-1713

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[218]

Leeds Oct 6th 1862

My dear Lizzie -

Lizzie & Davie and I came to Leeds this morning. Rowland went to Bath, to take the boat tonight for Boston, on his way to Springfield, to the meeting of the American Board.

Your letter came this evening, and we are all glad you are getting along so well. But you mustn't work too hard, & get so tired as you were at Farmington. Charles' letter to you, also came this afternoon, & Mother could not let it go away without knowing how they were, & what they were doing, so she opened it.

Jamie is well, and doing finely – seems to love “Bella-ed” as he calls her, as well as he would his mother – says Mamma has “Gone ride” Mother says your butter will be ready the last of this week, and you can have it any time after. She thinks you had better come while you are sure of good travelling. Tell Guy that Lion came back today, looking very “muching”, & exceedingly starved. His ribs stuck out on both sides, & he ate all the hens' dinner up, he was so hungry.

We shall probably be here all the week, as Rowland will not be back before Saturday, and possibly not until the first of next week. I shut up the house, and Harriet went home. She was almost sick this morning, with a very sore throat & some symptoms of Dyphtheria, but I hope it will prove no worse than a bad cold.

My ideas seem unusually dull tonight, but my heart is full of good wishes for you & the children, & I hope you will write as often as you can, & tell us how you get along in your new home.

With love to you & kisses to the little ones.

Your sister
Ella P. H.

1762 10/4/1862 *From:* H. Hayes

To: Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-1712

Washington

Sumner's Corps
In the Field

Source: Bowdoin

[219]

Washington 4 Oct 1862

Genl O.O. Howard
Sumner's Corps
In the Field

Dear General,

I was just now informed by the clerk in charge of your account for indemnity arising from loss of horses at Fair Oaks that the proof must show that Lieut C.H. Howard, was regularly assigned as your Aide Camp. It is asked in what regiment was he mustered in as a Lieutenant? Or other officer. They say if he was detailed to act on your staff, not being a commissioned officer, then he was simply a volunteer aid, and the horse ridden by him at that battle was at risk of owner.

Col Garische gave me the enclosed circular and said it was the rule controlling.

I told them that C.H. Howard wore the uniform and received the pay of a Lieutenant, but in all the offices no one found the evidence of his being mustered as an officer. I urged that he had served with great credit and distinction at the first Battle of Bull Run, that of Fair Oaks, and Antietam, but red tape asked where is the commission? You will set all this right by a word. I take the first moment to advise, as to what is considered a desideratum in the case, as now presented to the 3d Aud'tor.

Allow me sincerely to congratulate you on your preservation and that of your brother Lieut Howard, amid the dangers of the great battles of Maryland. I had the rare opportunity of witnessing the battle of the Antietam, being a portion of the time on the hill towards Keedysville and again on the field itself.

It was not deemed prudent by my advisers to penetrate to your command, and so I regret the loss of an opportunity to see you.

Let me hear from you at your first moment of leisure & remembrance to your brother.

Very truly,
H. Hayes

P.S. You have a Division. My augury is that your star will be duplicated, since meritorious service will henceforth measure promotion for the most part.

1765 10/8/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1714

Bolivar Heights
Head Quarters
Howard's Div

Source: Bowdoin

[320]

Bolivar Heights
Head Quarters Howard's Div'n
October 8 1862

Dearest

Yesterday I rode with Genl Sumner to visit the pickets of the entire Corps & it was a pretty good days work. The weather has been extraordinary for three whole weeks, very pleasant indeed, a few showers, but generally not a cloud to be seen. The heat during the day has been great but the nights cool, sometimes cold. You said I might have crossed into Virginia. Harpers Ferry & Bolivar are in Virginia. We crossed by the ford two weeks ago last monday and are about two miles from the crossing. Since then, a pontoon bridge has been put across the Potomac & another across the Shenandoah. Charlie has gone out this morning with the Genl Officer of the day (or just going) to reorganize the picket line. He seems now to be quite well. For some time he was threatened with a fever but now it is over. I have felt worried about him. I am on another court today I am sorry to say for courts do not agree with me very well: their effect is to make me sleep poorly at night.

How is Guy now – at Augusta? I expect he would be glad to see a little squirrel, we have here. Sometimes he is treed in front of papa's tent to the flag pole. He is a beautiful gray and very tame. I sometimes see him on John's shoulder & again sticking his head out of his pocket, have never known him to bite anybody.

Has Grace found anybody she knows at Augusta. Has Aunty Clark come to see them? Gen. Sumner has a leave of 30 days beginning with today. I must hasten down to see him before the Court is in session & before he leaves.

God bless & keep you. Jamie is a good way off but in good hands.

Much love
Most affectionately
O.O. Howard

Too bad, they were talking to me.

Your affectionate husband
Otis

1766 10/10/1862 *From:* E. Waite

To: Mrs Lizzie A Howard

OOH-1715

Portland

Source: Bowdoin

[21]

Portland Oct 10 1862

Mrs Lizzie A Howard

Dear Niece

I recvd your letter of 8th and have made enquiry about Furniture. Mr Corney say that they have a good assortment of furniture now on hand, and think they can suit you very well as to quality and price. They have no such Lounges as you mention but think they could make you one that would suit you.

Your dividends are due at the Banks. Say Casco \$44, Canal \$28, International \$18, Merchants \$18, Making \$108. The coupons on Rail Road Bonds are also due. The money is ready at the Banks. I can collect all but from Merchants Bank for that I should need an Order. We should be pleased to see you at Portland and render you our best services.

From Your Affectionate Uncle

E. Waite

P.S.

In case you should conclude to go with your friend to Boston, and will drop me a line I will cheerfully attend to any business you may wish. E.W.

1767 10/11/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1716

Hd. Qrs. Bolivar Heights

Source: Bowdoin

[323]

Hd. Qrs. Bolivar Heights
Oct 11 1862

Dearest

Day before yesterday I was made happy by getting what purported to be two letters, but on opening I found that there were three one from yourself and one from Guy and another from Grace. What real good letters they did write papa, so nicely printed. Guy began with small letters but I think he found it too hard work and went again to his capitals. The man who owned the squirrel has sold him to a paymaster & he is gone. Papa feels sorry for he had half a mind to invite Guy out see him.

For a few days past I have been troubled a great deal with a dull head-ache. I lay abed yesterday a good part of the time. I think my head is better this morning. We have had continuous heat from before the battle of Antietam till now. Last night the weather changed. I am inclined to think the heat of the sun as I have been exposed has effected my head, but as I am so nicely this morning and have eaten a good breakfast, it is a pity to mention it.

I hope Gracie's letter has reached her. It was sent to Leeds. It is odd that you could not get a pew, the House must be very full. But I presume you did not wish to get one too far back.

At present we are doing nothing but drilling & making works. General Sumner has gone on a 30 days leave & taken his staff with him. General Couch has been assigned to the corps. A man who does'nt look older than I, he graduated about the time of General McClellan, left the army, but came out with a Mass. Regt as Colonel. I think from his countenance, he must be a good man. My rank is next to his, so that I am liable to command the corps in case any accident happen to him. Gen Hancock & Gen French have reversed rank & I the Junior rank them both.

Charles is now quite well. I think he is scarcely any lame though his leg is not very strong.

Col Sewall was in here last night. His wife writes him such cheerless letters that it makes him discontented and unhappy. She thinks he deceives her, for he promised not to go into the field and yet he has gone. I am very sorry she gives way so to her feelings. The Col could not resign now without great dishonor & yet he thinks he must do something for the sake of his wife and family.

I fear you may be in want of money. I bought Dr Wiggin's horse for him - \$115, assisted Capt. Whittlesey with some - expect 300 from the Government which it delays paying and what is still worse I sent to Washington by Genl Sedgwick's aide de Camp Lt. Whittier for my last month's pay. He drew it & spent the whole of it and when he came back said he was disappointed in getting his own. He bought me a Robe (just like my old one) & some things for the mess. Now I am waiting for him to get his own pay & refund, which he now thinks will be even before monday. Tell me, darling, how you are getting on for money.

I had a letter from Genl Sedgwick a day or two since. His wounds are quite troublesome, but he expects to be back soon. Genl Burns has returned to his Brigade, but is not well. His spine is affected. I doubt if he can ride for any considerable distance.

Give much love & many kisses to the children. Kind regards to C.H.M. & all friends.

Your own husband
Otis

1768 10/14/1862 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1717

Head Quarters Bolivar

Source: Bowdoin

[239]

Head Quarters Bolivar
(a good warm room)
Oct 14th 1862

Dearest,

I have not written you for the last three days & I dont know but more. I will own up I have been quite unwell, threatened with a fever. I now eat cornstarch & Farina & a baked or roasted apple. I have thus far done all the duties of my post & hope to be decidedly better tomorrow.

John <Antish> has become guilty of an awful crime, robbing the mails.

I have persuaded Charles to go to the North. He cannot get well here. If my feverish turns hang on I shall have to go too.

Give much love to the children & many kisses. I shall send for you if my sickness should amount to any thing serious. God bless you.

Your affectionate husband
Otis

1769 10/15/1862 *From:* Addison Pool

To: My Dear Gen'l [OO
Howard]

OOH-1718

Beaufort, N.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[8]

Beaufort, N.C. Oct 15th 1862

My Dear Gen'l,

Your kind Christian letter was duly received, and you may be assured I was very glad to hear that you were once more returned to your position in the army, and were recovering so well from your recent disaster.

It made me sad to notice the difference in your hand writing, but I knew you could see the hand of God in your affliction, and was prepared to abide his will.

I thank you Gen'l, for your kind advice, and will try to follow out your course of action, so plainly laid down. I shall take the earliest opportunity of receiving the ordnance of baptism, and delay joining any church until my way looks more clear, to connect myself with some body of christ's people at as early a day as practicable, however is my wish as I believe I shall be less subject to temptation, and stronger to resist, when I have the prayers of the church joined to my own, for strength to resist the allurements of sin.

I have had a very serious spell of sickness since writing you before, and was obliged to stay over at this place from our vessel, when she came here for coal ten days ago, however I am now much better, and hope soon to rejoin my ship in full health. I suppose you must be expecting warm work soon, and no doubt there will be much hard fighting before winter sets in. I hope you may be kept from harm and that we may yet meet this side the judgment – but above all that we may spend eternity together in the presence of him, in whom we trust.

My kind regards to your brother Charles, and thank him for his kind wishes on my behalf.

I am, Gen'l,
very respectfully
your obedient servant
Addison Pool

1770 10/18/1862 *From:* E Waite

To: Mrs. Lizzie A Howard

OOH-1719

Portland

Source: Bowdoin

[324]

Portland Oct 18 1862

Mrs. Lizzie A Howard

Dear Niece

I received your letter with the Order for Merchants Bank dividend. I now enclose one hundred dollars \$100 – leaving due eight dollars which I will send with the Collection of the Rail Road Coupons.

We are all well hope this will find you & children all enjoying the same Blessing. Did hope we should see you in Portland.

With much love to all
from your Affectionate
Uncle
E Waite

Please acknowledge recpt.

1771 10/19/1862 *From:* R.H. Gilmore

To: Dear Lizzie [Howard]

OOH-1720

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[325]

Leeds Oct. 19, 1862

Dear Lizzie:

I came home here last Friday and return to College tomorrow. I extract the following from the Telegraphic dispatches in the Lewiston Daily Journal of yesterday.

"The Tribune's Harper's Ferry dispatch says Brig. Gen. Howard, who is prostrated by fever, leaves this morning for his home in Maine." The date was Oct. 17. Will you be kind enough to write Mother here and me at Brunswick what you know about it as of course we are exceedingly anxious to learn all we can in regard to the matter.

We are led to suppose that it is not a very severe attack, or he would be unable to travel six or eight hundred miles. Will Charles or Prof. Whittlesey or both come with him?

I shall return to College tomorrow and shall visit each train to see if they pass through there if they have not already done so.

It is needless to say that my poor aid, in any capacity, is at your disposal, if need be.

I have engaged the school at "Slab City" to teach this winter and shall have the privilege of coming home every week. I commence to teach two weeks from tomorrow, Nov. 3d. Jamie is well.

A kiss for Guy and Grace.

Very affectionately Yours
R.H. Gilmore

1772 10/23/1862 *From:* CH Howard

To: My dear brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-1721

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[327]

Leeds Oct. 23 1862

My dear brother

I arrived in safety last night home and trust you found as good a haven the day previous.

Mr. Webb was very cordial & urged me so much to stay longer that I was really embarrassed, but I wanted to get home. He sent his love to you & tho't he would write to you soon.

As Jamie is still with us I shall expect you & Lizzie to come up as soon as you are able. Jamie is well & very happy – seemed glad to see me & likes to talk or play with me. He came over with Isabella from her house this morning where they have been since last Saturday.

Jamie has a cold in his head but has not seemed sick.

Isabella seems to take the best of care of him. He speaks very distinctly some words.

When you come up I want Lizzie to bring my papers which she has in possession for me. Father will pay up a portion of the <cost>.

Mother is well & preparing for Winter – getting her plants & tomatoes in away from the Frost which is coming on apace.

My health seems to improve. The coating is leaving my tongue. I rested well in the boat from Boston to Portland tho' it was very rough.

My love to Lizzie & a big bunch to Guy & Grace. I send them some money which they will not be likely to spend. It will therefore spend well.

It is cold in this Longitude. How is it with you?

Write us when you can come.

Your Affectionate brother
CH Howard

P.S. Louisa is making us a visit – seems happy & is as well as usual. Huldah is very low & is at Willard's.

1773 10/24/1862 *From:* F.D. Sewall

To: Dear Gen'l [OO Howard]

OOH-1722

Frederic City, Md

Source: Bowdoin

[328]

Frederic City, Md.
Oct 24, 1862

Dear Gen'l,

I was sorry not to have seen you again before you left, but was glad nevertheless that you got away so soon. I heard from you at Philadelphia thro' Capt. Whittlesey. I presume before this that you are with your dear family in your own home. May God's blessing be with all there.

I was quite unwell and felt obliged to ask for a leave. My throat became sore and my cough increased. Dr. Palmer recommended a leave of twenty days, which Genl. Gorman particularly requested, and advised me to go to Maine, but I tho't it better to go no further back than this place, especially in the present state of my cough. I left Bolivar Wednesday. I have a nice boarding place in the family of a Methodist Clergyman, they are very kind to me. I expect my wife to join me tomorrow. I felt considerably better yesterday, but am not nearly as well today, and have been obliged to keep my bed most of the time. I hope however to recruit rappidly, and to be able to join my Regmt, before the expiration of my leave of absence. I do not like to be away from it, as long as I command it, tho' I should much prefer some other service.

I got quite discouraged with my success before I left. I tho't, that I had my command in a good state of discipline, and was vain enough to believe that it was a good Regmt, but that Lt. Jones who inspected it, made a very unfavorable report. He reported every Regmt, I believe in the Division to be in a poor state of discipline, arms in bad condition, and appearance bad. Genl. McClellan wrote a note to Gen Gorman in regard to it. I felt that injustice had been done me, and made a statement in reply, at the suggestion of Genl Gorman. I was sorry that the report did not come before you left. It was an outrageous report, and really untrue. He says in his report that with the exception of the 1st Maine, no books except the morning report books are kept in either of the Regmts. He did not inspect my books, which I know to be correctly kept. Of course I was pretty angry, to be disgraced so early, and after I had worked so hard to put my Regmt in proper shape. I am quite out with the war, and would gladly return to the quiet of my own home, but I suppose it is my duty to remain, and trusting in my heavenly Father who has ever been so good to me. I will try to do what seems to be my duty.

Genl. Gorman is commanding the Division, and Col. Suiter our Brigade. The Genl is very kind to me, and were it not for his profanity, I should like him very well. I wish his heart might be reached.

Every body seems to think that the army is to advance, but there were no indications of it when I left.

I hope my dear Genl, that you may be able to return soon. I want my Regmt in another Division you may have. It was very lonesome after you left.

I shall remain here until I am able to join the Regmt.

Give my kindest regards to your wife and the children also to Charles if with you. May the grace of our Lord & Savior be multiplied to you and yours.

Yrs Very truly
F.D. Sewall

Letters directed to the care of Rev. B.H. <Carver> will reach me here.

1774 10/27/1862 *From:* Andrew Merrell

To: Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-1723

Geneva, N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

[252]

Geneva, N.Y. Oct. 27th 1862

Gen. O.O. Howard,
Dear Sir,

Your very acceptable letter was received a few days since. I thank you for your benediction upon the boy who bears your name, and also for your excellent photograph. It is but a few days since I was presented with a beautiful album and expressed the wish that your face might have a place within it, - a wish I did not expect so soon to have gratified.

Since returning home my health has been variable. It is now generally good, though I cannot endure what I once could. Were I able to return to the army there is no one under whom I should more desire to serve than yourself.

Dr. Snow, I am sorry to say, has done me an injustice by circulating the report that I was "inefficient" in the service, "did little or nothing," and so overtaken him as to "cause his dismissal".

Dr. Palmer used to tell me that Dr. Snow was jealous in his feelings toward me, but I did not then believe it. He said, too, when the Dr's troubles began, that, had it not been for the accuracy & promptness with which I made out the Surgeon's reports, Dr. S. would have been dismissed long before, and he has also kindly sent me a statement, over his own signature, to the effect that "Dr. Merrell, as Ass't Surgeon, was not surpassed by any in the Division," xxx "That he often performed the duties of Surgeon & always correctly & promptly" xxx "That he (Dr. P.) knows of no man better calculated, did his health permit, to become an efficient & prompt Surgeon in the field than Dr. Merrell."

Although I do not fear the ultimate effect of such "small minded jealous scandal," (as Dr. Palmer calls it in a letter to me) it is nevertheless unlooked for treatment from one whose faults I endeavored to conceal & whose reputation I guarded with the utmost consideration, and it is a satisfaction, if not a duty, to be able to refute these calumnies by the credentials of such men as yourself & Dr. Palmer. If, therefore, you find leisure briefly to state, whether, in your opinion, I was faithful in the performance of my duties & held the confidence & respect of my regiment while connected with your Brigade, I shall be very much gratified.

From the papers I learn that you have been raising a new Brigade from which I judge that you intend returning to the army.

Please present my kind regards to your brother, from whom I should be pleased to hear and whose photograph I should also prize.

Very Respectfully Yours
Andrew Merrell

1775 10/28/1862 *From:* O. O. Howard

To: Mrs. O. O. Howard

OOH-1724

Philadelphia

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[256]

Kennebec Telegraph

Augusta Oct 28th 1862

By Telegraph from Philadelphia

To Mrs. O. O. Howard

Have had slow fever. Better now. Home Tuesday on short leave.
O.O. Howard

1776 10/29/1862 *From:* C. Briggs U.S.
Actng Surgeon

To: To Whom it May Concern

OOH-1725

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[329]

Lieut C H Howard of the Regiment of Maine volunteers having applied for a certificate on which to ground an application for an extension of leave of absense I do hereby certify that I have carefully examined this Officer & find that he is suffering from lameness of the right leg caused by a wound from a musket ball through the thigh from chronic diarrhea & piles. And that in consequence thereof, he is in my opinion unfit for duty. I further declare my belief that he will not be able to resume his duties in a less period than thirty days from the sixth of November.

C. Briggs U.S. Actg Surgeon

Augusta Oct 29, 1862

1777 10/29/1862 *From:* W.H.M. [William H.
Merrick]

To: My dear Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-1726

Phila

Source: Bowdoin

[230]

Phila Oct. 29/62

My dear Otis

Your two notes have been received and I am greatly obliged for the contents of both. The likeness is admirable only your modesty has prevented you being in the right rig - Genl H. ought to have a Genl's feathers on.

My health is not yet quite what it ought to be. I went to N.Y. last week & have been knocking about too much within the last few days & do not feel at all well to day. I have serious thoughts of slipping away for a short time & try Maine air.

My love to all. Yrs. affy.

W.H.M. [William H. Merrick]