My dear Mother,

Charles wrote me that he should start for Washington yesterday; if he went I presume you will find more lonely. I neglected a letter to him a day or two since but sent it under cover to you as I thought he might be gone. I think I have written him other letters which he has not received, nor had answered all his questions so that he seemed to be uncertain about judging from his last letter. We are still in the same place. I heard that we were to have reinforcements, but I heard since 6 o'clock to the right around Div... We will probably hold till these troops come up. The enemy seem much heavy artillery across the river in position and seem to contest our passage and unless our cavalry is manned very carefully, we shall suffer.
a very many less if not absent. It is the most difficult of military operations to keep a line in the face of an enemy of equal strength. We could easily have done it the day we arrived but it. It had been the pontoon bridge and it was impracticable to move over without it is folly to throw over a small force for the enemy by artillery at Balls Bluff. We had to wait and while waiting the enemy brought a detachment of about four thousand men to our front and further brought some 4,000 to threaten our lines of supply. So you were a guess that North was on the way at and we turned the 2nd of 6th of a bridge away.

We have a very beautiful place for small boats and the weather looks good. I hope Whiting has got entirely well. It thoroughly conversant with the duties of his department. I cannot be too thankful for the good Providence that has sent him here. I find Sargent Sinton a good kid and an excellent young man. I am glad I chose him. I meant to have written you a longer letter but the mail carrier is waiting. I am to Fithbert Isabella. I hope her brother (Clark) is known by this time. And bless you.

Mr. Watterson, Son

C. W. Howard.
Hampton Dec. 2, 1862.

My dear Brother,

I think I wrote in my last that I would write once a fortnight! I must have been deceived about that time. I meant I will write often.

Ella has been at Bath with same now a little over a week. I went down Thanksgiving day to return. She stayed a night at Leeds with Mother & Charles. I suppose he starts today for your head quarters going as far as Culpester. I hope he will not hang an any. you need him. I think he is pretty well now. But not doing a nor capable of Ecluding fatigue. Mother seemed well & to take Charles departure quietly. She doesn’t the feel as I do. That we will see.
trin (now you) again "this
Little Jordan". I often feel that
my life I would willingly give
if it would be a mile towards
putting down this Rebellion &
I could part with my dear
brother with greater equanimity,
it seems to me, for this
cause than for any others
The hearts of the people are
becoming detached & the priests
are crying "Peace - peace at any
terms!" The Educated - None
2 Welging Clapers of Society
must hold up the heads
that hang down & strengthen the
feeble voices - O for the eloquence
of a Leeuiz - O for the wisdom
Motherlin 2 patient, persevering
perseverance & undaunted fortit-
ute of a Washington! I look
upon this Rebellion as 2
Wmltn after a great Criminal
is not performed—our obligations are not met if we
leave a single thing undone
to bring these hangovers of
human laws to an end. For
abuse—My feelings of
reconciliation are none I
were better for the slave, I
took occasion to denounce
the deed that many have
of abolition, as well as the
prejudice to generally entertained
against the Negro race, as un-
Christian, not in accordance
with the spirit of the Gospel
as embodied in the Golden
Rule. Last Lab. Evening—2
I then asked a good demo-
cratic Deacon to pray the
paper over the slaves & freed
men I prayed that we
might feel right towards

79
Also, having committed a capital crime, in endeavoring to escape justice—no amount of means, no no! of friends, no respectability—desired from men power—no success in eluding the avenging rod. Can alter my ultimate if the turpitude of the crime—the pecuniaries due it, nor the great moral obligation resting upon "the power that be" to inflict—nay, is visited with the full penalty of the law. Those who have directly or indirectly promoted the Rebellion, with its thousands of murders & its millions stolen—should not escape. God will fix the responsibility and punish the offenders. Whether human justice ever takes them a va. but Our dear
the Rebels - their rights lie to have done but not left the other undone. I wish to feel towards the Rebels as I never towards any band of outlaws. Among them are many deceived innocent, but the essence of the Rebelism is that which constitutes it is against human 2 divine law. I pray for the criminal that he may repent. I teach him. I pity him, but if he is a murderer, I would hang him. I cannot get this idea of simple justice - righteous penalty - into my Deacon mind. Charity, mercy, and many other virtues, he loses. But answering, unyielding justice - such as the Bible teaches is the attribute of God - he can't escape.
I hope you will write me.
Since you left Augusta, I told your wife of this note and sent her the proceeds. It had become part of her duty by reason of being out of town and I concluded to give her the balance and will send her a fair price.

**In the Balance:** Jan. 10th. = Our Winter_css was going opened (or from) the beginning is excellent.
The weather cold. I blustering = I am in Winter Quarters. The Horse has a "raking" - the New James buttons well. My dog has a new store and temporal matters are well enough. 2
With you could share my comforts & conveniences. and get I often envy your life of strong activity. WhereOverlay its own duties

[Signature] = I never am
to lift up as an example when I am most active with things that must be done. But it is hard to be responsible for your own time & its improvement—
to devise methods of usefulness & to furnish lessons. That shall not be flabbergasting.
I have now a Bible Class Monday evening that promises well. Last lab. the funeral services of a
villain in 16th Me. crowded our house of worship. I preached with some ease & enjoyment
in the neat of affliction & the special consolations that follow those who give a dear one to
their country. I am trying to keep up a correspondence with all our church mem-
ters who are in the Army.
Dec. 3

Charles will be likely to reach you as soon as this letter. I will bring the latest news from Uncle Heddle is to be buried today - Charles will tell you about her. I called Lat.

Law too I prayed with George & the children. He seems deep affected - she has been unto him Rudder is come & is in Putting of both he has often missed his course - I am glad she has found her "rest" - Iexpect Ella
I came tonight - I hear incidentally from a lady Mrs W. W. Thomas of Portland that you forgot to give her a Photograph you promised.

With kind remembrance to Col. Sevall & Capt. Whiting
your affectionate, Portland
Dear Sir,

I have just got up, got dressed, and went to breakfast. It is six minutes after seven, as the sun rises somewhat earlier in your country than here. I must imagine you already up, unless you are lazy and lie in bed in the morning, which I believe you never do. If dinner is served together, when does dinner begin? There or until you lay in the little room? I should have to go home to find out. I presume Mr. Banks will reach Washington today, but I do not expect him here before next Monday. Yesterday I visited "Cherry" and rode to the Governor's house on their mule instead of the sight of Fredericksburg in a large brick house. I gathered my little poem...
Dear Anna,

This is a letter from your brother, John. He is doing well and hopes to return soon.

John's health is improving, and he is happy to be living in the city. He enjoys the fresh air and the people.

John is doing well at his job, and he is happy to be working with the city's new mayor.

John is looking forward to seeing you and the family soon. He is planning to visit soon.

Best regards,

John
Philadelphia 3d. December 48

Dear Sir,

I have often thought of you and your excellent advice you gave us. The news of your battle has not yet reached us, and I should have written you sooner, but I was anxious to address a letter that would find you, if it were not too late. I have written to you in my 4th letter of the 5th of December. I assure you that I was the only man that gave you such excellent advice as I have written you. I have written you in the words that have been printed since the beginning of this war, and have made many efforts to get a commission so that I could join in some brave cause in fighting for the restoration of our glorious union. But as to bring off my efforts have failed, some others may succeed me, it would be necessary to have money or credit.
political influence, neither of which, I am sure, 

Without a doubt, I could have found any amount of 

life I have been used to. My father 

was an officer in the militia, and I have made many friends in the same 

army. It seems the officers appeared to favor me. 

Mr. Young had obtained certain important 

positions. He thought it justified to think that the first 

of your officers were not so biased and that 

practically, there was injustice. If I were not for your 

favor, I don’t think the army would be much more 

efficient. It is a bad system to appoint officers 

as officers whose only merit is not in belonging to the Republican or Conservative parties. The only 

criticism should be, the one with the best qualifications 

for command. Dear Sir, if these is any position 
you could foresee for me, you would longer 

be great favor by commanding me for it. I would be 

extremely grateful if you could put me on a command. 

However, it may be that if I could only be so fortunate as to be attached to your 

brigade, I am sure your would never be forgot. 

For bearing with me, I have been indebted to be 

instructing offers and should be delighted to have 

in the manner some is not only a favor to you.
[Handwritten text not legible in this context]
my name can in awhile, so in describing our march from Warrington to this place.
In the last before he mentioned you.
It's heat in which I will enclose. If I can find the tribune that contains it. I should hide it. They are printed on a
copy of present the vanity. But they are not to be obscured. I think a
good deal of Senator Morrill and not the
life for his domestic qualities. I should
benefit from it. I wonder if you
wrote a letter to Mr. Jameson last night.
I had thought of it. When I did it
sentences in the night right. Both
my brother and my companion
received a letter from his mother giving
a description of Jameson last month &
speaking of the severity of the blow to
his wife. The letter was in the morning
before his death (for remember rightly) if they
the rest were alone. She said yes. Then
the said, "repeat the words prayer. She did so.
and he tried to repeat it after her and
said "Jameson" distinctly. She went on to
ask that he might be spared to theme a
little longer. He closed her and said "you
saw me. At another time he said "it will
be the hardest trial. "speaking to his father
of his wife. and then added. "when he
brought his children. His last hours were
doleful. Those of a Christian
bringer in "sacrificed by fire" through
much bodily suffering and perhaps not
less. Mental. He was a kind hearted man
and a gentleman. He was ambitious to see
a gallant officer, sacrificed on the altar of
his country. for the peninsula laid the
charges upon him, which terminated
in his death. "To say Jameson is going to
even get another arm one of these days.
What will he say then. You can send
him a bundle of express. direct. "Via Washington-
Army of the Potomac." Write when you
send and if it does not come I will
send word by some one going to the
Dear Mr. Holmworth

Dec. 7, 1862

My dear William,

I presume you got my last letter before the last left. Now I rather anticipate him to be in Washington & here tomorrow; giving him 5 or 6 days for business. On finding we had a snow storm and it has been very cold, since. The ground is on which I write as it is with you. "Thomas was away from us five or six miles off the road when his regiment returned from Bull Plain to this place." I saw "Thomas twice yesterday. He has been a little ill" but did not call himself sick. He was looking well. I should not wonder if winter with a shelter tent went rather hard with him. He is cold through the compass. Perhaps you all inquire why we delay so. Well, I do. Men can
work and work of the order is going on and
I am working to have the work done
for I wish to return to civil life
I am not unhappy, the most of
the time quite the reverse. My
health is good, I have a good appetite,
sleep well and am able to endure
a great deal of fatigue. With these
spirits almost any body is
cheerful. It is my possible. The
progress of events seems to indi-
cate that the inactivity of our
leaders is God’s way of helping
the Nation. Why? because his
object is to humble his Church
and delay the Nation from moving
to prevent disruption. Slavery which
has given us so much trouble must
“go by the board”. We want to
make a settlement, but no
settlement is to be had at pres-
ent. In the meantime, the
old men are going free. I hope you
and yourself are well. Dr. (whom)
is with you. My dear Isabella buy
you. I will learn all about things
at home where I must yet leave it
an amusing, to see him and you
almost always going to have him
have bosses. Your tests at this
indefinite scene. We have a large
well that to eat in and knew how
to live in it yet. We generally eat
with our hats and overcoats on.

Today I proposed to make a
“California pin-wheel”. Perhaps
you can easily to learn how
they are constructed. You dig a
hole in the
ground somewhere in the compass
of the tent and then has a small
trench to the outside and when
two small bunches without heads
are cut and cover the trench 3
feet of the hole with first stones
and dirt on top. The hole is the
Near Haldimoth, Va.
December 9, 1863

Dear Russ,

We are still in the same place but from all appearances it is not healthy. In the last night our troops were detached to help burn boats, log for cordwood, etc. which looks like an attempt to exhaust. We shall stay here till the next get fair rain, and long I cannot tell. I heard the word in Friday from Washington. The victor is still demanding other certificates. I must certify that I did not deal forage or feed for the dead horses. I must certify that I bought horses to replace each of the horses lost. I do not know what will come next. I have written you delayed in getting to you, reading you. Last night he could not get my reply before tonight. He missed his business before tomorrow night. So I shall not much expect him.
him before tomorrow noon is as soon as
must. I have just got a new regiment
Dietz's Brigade. and I must see about encamp-
ing it. Afternoon - built a large Rept.
the list is named Jennings. He must
think a good deal of home. For almost
his first inquiry was how he could
get his mail. It seemed like a
good officer, handling his men well.
Whithers has been making
us a door to the tent.
the lower frame is fixed
so as to incline as the tent
does and is perfected as in the frame.
The upper is painted to the native frame
which constitutes frame above. I would like to see our cedar Woodwork.
Whithers says there is
an advantage in that With-
stand for its never troubles over
They can use any water paid
and wash basin. Often

Attended to get their letters and
would write them noon up to
end. Decist. I am now writing
Wednesday morning Dec 10.
Before you get this letter you
will get the news of a battle.
I try to only comply on my Scarcity
in time trying times. If anything
should happen to me. I feel that
I have committed you all to
God and I hope to meet my
wife and children in Heaven.
May the divine presence relieve
you from all excess of sorrow
and the little ones pain in Jesus
time to love. To trust. I know no
possibilities of disaster but I know
the desolate nature of our under-
taking. But if it is the will of God
it will be easily accomplished.
I know has not reached here and I am
written in hope he will not come
before Thursday. The storm is still
on the floor near me. I am sitting on the floor near a fire, just like Professor (name) writing on my lap with an ink filled pen. I hold the paper in a large portfolio with a little colored bag holding up the other end. The ink is a light brown. I am writing with it in my right hand and I write in my right hand. You also act as a poor comic at the bottom of the page. The words you write with your left hand are as you see for me - scrawled over for me. I am writing in large type. Any other words will be much more interesting are perfect letters. You can cut them upto a little white space before or after big big dog.

With love to my precious children, 

Love to you in their true and holy lives.

I am with you. 

Yours truly,

Mrs. Hunter

Kensington, London

Dec 15, 1902

Dear,

I believe that when I was writing this morning at 3 a.m. I was not joking when I thought I would write you a few times. On Thursday we left home at 6 a.m. in the train (name) came to see me. The name of the place of (name) was the (name) to (name) the line. The train was inclined in getting the bridge which help us when the fire of the train. The train was too hot. I believe that they decided and it was impossible to get there. In the same time, our brother was coming on foot. He walked towards the bridge where there was a slow and slowly ground. Finally, 6 a.m. in the morning, we got inside the train and the right. The smoke of the train was bold, no one would stop. I went in back and wait. Another man was killed himself wounded. The goods to the (name).
Some matters brought little children for nursing on to Egypt. A few were got into some cells & got quite throngt. I took little 4 yr. in a little old house, brought to nurse them & kept & all helped with her. I had to take them much and frequently to give the milk. Another night, Brigadier came over the bridge here.

A mile below Cairo by boat, sailing, going to the bridge being a mile below Cairo, by boat, sailing, going to the bridge being a mile below Cairo by boat, sailing, going to the bridge being a mile below Cairo by boat, sailing, going to the bridge being a mile below Cairo by boat, sailing, going to the bridge.
Headquarters 1st Div.
2nd Corps, Army of the Potomac
Frickey, Va.
Dec. 15, 1862

Dear Miss:

I would write you oftener but my labor of all kinds makes me feel almost unfit to write when I get a chance. We have had another terrible battle (more slightly wounded) but of little account, a piece of a shell hit him in the shoulder, but near the top and took a small piece out of his left leg. This horse was standing in my left and trotting me.

“Whadda” my horse was wounded slightly in the cantle by a musket ball, all my staff had their horses wounded. Two officers had theirs killed. Lt. Stimson of Artillery was often exposed but not scratched. God has been good to us instead. I will not describe the battle.
I was very hurt and held my ground from 1 P.M. for over 12 hours until relieved by other troops. Only 200 men from the enemy's right fell. Among my men lying down one of my nephews stood till from 1 P.M.

Upon seeing some of the wounded men, who came to relieve me, they asked me in a retrograde movement: 'How much can I understand your death? Let us not trouble our soldiers wounded as badly, and keep silent. Much love to my precious children. The General.

My reliance upon my Savoir, I feel to be consolatory. This hard work will wear us down, as I hope.

We love you. Oh, how within mother's bosom in abundance to her. [Signature] 673
operate healthily.

We have had some unusual circumstances occurring, and a sick return lady came out near the end of our last Saturday night. She was sent to them as near as is possible, there for her protection. She showed no signs of unrelenting of our making her home. I don't think our next then that we came into this parsonage and we feel much more at home with some of our own. Well to other LCDs in the town LCD right I might have slept beautifully, but we not been locked up about 28 times by orders from other matters of business. Ots is writing you by my side so this letter will not be as important as I thought it would be.


dear sister, Lizzie.

For fear Ots may not get time to write I send you word that we are all safe and well. We had a fearful battle on Saturday, and we were exposed much and long but the Lord shielded not only Ots and me but all our staff. The fighting yesterday for which we were doubly thankful because it was the Lord's day and because we were every from the tenement of the day before. Ots and my horses were slightly wounded, not enough to disable them. I have a very slight wound by a bit of shell in calf of the leg but it will not put me out of duty. May God

 Ket Hel's 2nd Division
 Fredericktown, Va.
 Dec. 15, 1862
Rubber boots protected my leg.

It is a beautiful morning, warm as September. The ground is damp and somewhat muddy. We were distanced many times last night or this morning. If our command is on Ridge or any other command in our vicinity, this has the responsibility of holding out for an attack. I think we may not be in action again at present. If it is possible - we failed to carry the works in front to some other plan then pressing right here has undoubtedly been adopted. Liegel will probably be sent down south down now I mean to overlook them.

We have good generals. Lt. Pliny of our staff. Gen. Biagio is said to have been killed. Col. Coates was badly wounded.

Gen. Shanks is very sick and is disposed to close pretty with all. West a man of excellence now is the astonishing, faithful and true General, in high favor on both sides to be. The other, his Brigade Commanders, kind and they co-
Phila. Dec 16th 1862

Dear Mr. Green,

Upon this having left after hearing the last sermon today the first opening I got disappointed when I learned my liberation only on Sunday. I plan to reply to you knowing the manner you receive the teachers. Still there I am and you'll hear at the end of the fight. I expect you'll have plenty of stories to tell.

Always yours,

[Signature]
Dear Mr. My plan near
Pembroke Va. Dec 17, 62

Dearest,

I feel the exhaustion
of the past few days labor must
so much that I neglect to
my precious little family. After the
battle of Saturday we had a working
night of it. My division, after remain-
ing for more than 12 hours within
a hundred paces of the enemy's line,
were withdrawn to the New Kearn
ridge. The next day Sunday was
comparatively quiet all day. Monday my
division were protecting the fever rega-
ning shelled so fatally every time.
Three regiments abandoned their position.
I had been at work laying out defenses
was in a high cupola, a mile off when
I saw a regiment giving hand. Harr
ing it was mine! I was to bring
up others. The work of the advance
ground was taken under the fire of
with my command—then had a
detail of 612 men for 42 hours,
just as a part of them got to work, we
were ordered to retreat to the old
camp. This we did. Our tents and
expeditions, etc. earlier lines, restored
and we are trying to rest. I
have called the entire command
regiment again at 7. I have been
done some harm as I said some
truths to those rights, that old
Daddy. Would would was so slight that
he does not mention it. I have had
a near start today—today I am
nothing a fine place—put in—1 am
going into Winter quarters—Give him
love & many kisses to my dears
children & hundreds you all.
Mr. Otis is well

Yours truly

A. B. Otis

This Sunday. We can all wait
through winter. This summer my
birthday has passed. People will try
can get away to fight as soon
as he can be spared. to get a new
arm. I wonder if somebody will
like to send me there;

Momma, Anna, Lila, Dan

You must write to Mrs. Otis
or Mrs. Blaine their story
is one I have and desire
just as much to hear as if I had
and defeated the enemy,
I must write out my report today
and get my new shoes (floor) in
order. I am perfectly well.

Most morning and afternoon
then i, in our land today.

Read the 44th in A. H. and
describe us, wish me well.

Much love

Otis
Larrington, Dec. 18th 1842

Dear Brother Ocr,

The life to come will bring us nearer than we've ever been from.

Some quarter concerning you & Charles. Earell has
been home to attend the
funeral of his brother in law.
Mr. Sampson says he heard
in Washington that you &
the Weager reached in our newspaper of late. Battle & the
subsequent return to all
that we have heard. We
were led by Sunday dispatches
to think that the affair on
the evening was onlyPartial.
But when I read there is
trouble of the regiment, I
was very anxious, but I
heard that the army was
enjoy it much more, spirits
prob - than if it had a
rare of a great victory, &
for more learned, God must
bush us all before we
can safely rise & prosper!
I do not hear at all
from Sappie and the dear
little children - Earell
thinks our mountain & zone
will be made simultaneous
very soon. He has lost one
of his most faithful & best
friends in the Sampson's - yet
have a Christmas Festival
for our 1st. three year.
Our people are healthy
and sound. I hope are getting
I trust. They write
Give my love to Charles & kind
regards to Capt. W. Seft. R. lanand.
Safe back again - "Safe" did I say. O may God comfort the widows, fathers, etc. truly made so in that aspect! I am not sorry that it was made. Nothing else could have demonstrated that the war could not be carried. The people will now more patiently end the honor & labor process. I write in the hope that your Division did nothing to cause Chas. to their Commander, and that those nearest you were spared this. The once again pain full - postponement - For Charles Hatcher! His name lost might run among the "killed" & no comment. His family are in Augusta. Uncle Eugene & Laura spent the last night here.

He is to hear the news to Uncle Charles & Aunt Emma. Knapp tonight Capt. Belcher of this place is wounded - so he of all the 3 years. Last 20 of Leeds & Farmington new here in the 10th to the one we have heard from. We hear nothing from Long street that this Maj' of 54th. Mrs. Ella & Baby are very well. We plan the "circle" tonight & probably a house full of our parishioners. Father spent a day - two nights ago. (PC meeting) to visit Ella. Father & Mother & Mr. Simpson died of apoplexy after 16 years illness. He was a good man. We miss to observe New Year Day as a Day of fasting & prayer. We
Dec. 19, 1862
New Falmouth.

Dear Lizzy,

Oty, her at

amy got in the report of
Brigade Commander, and
is this afternoon busy in
writing his report. He sat
near me for hours in his
tent——perhaps you are not
aware that he has a new
tent all by himself. It is
pitched on the back of the
field some 500 or 600
yards and will be more com-
fortable in cold weather.

If it is moderate today, we
will probably go to the
lower committee of Congress.
Here's hoping we can
visit some of the battles
but trust the Lord——
Soon to see some paper
from Charlie.

 DT says he is going to write
down decent things but no
one can he get his reports
out - ASF attachment to.

C. F. C. B.
That you made a bad move when you moved to Augusta for Mrs. B. to live in was French. I would have told you that in the old district you married was intended for Congress and in that new Alcinean country I saw. Which a pity you had no thought of it but only in wait till Alcinean is a Senator. I have no higher thought now than to do what I can to serve my country and that is the highest I can serve for I believe in doing this I am saving God. You should have the bright things in much the same way commanders speak of the conduct of many others. Mrs. Smith was so bright he does not dislike of it. I hope you are nicely. With love and remembrance Mrs. Darling — yours truly, Otis
Lincoln recognizes his cabinet will be better. I find more & more the need of a crucial humiliation before God to meet upon him 
and know his will. A letter from the rebel general Jackson 
came inquiring for a pension. This morning I wrote him just 
before the birth of my daughter. The first part was written to the rest 
of the family, persuading to come 
from the child. The matter was so touching that I sent it directly to him. Reminds 
and asked him to forward it to the 
first field officer in this Division & 
the State has been sent to command 
here. His little friend has been sent to come 
here. Here's this Division's friend 
married & gotten a still home. I went 
and found Mr. Smith is quite well. 
I do not understand what every body 
is down on Hooly. I expect it 
is an account of his politics & prejudices, 
which are strong. He was with his 
regiment in crossing the river 
and afterwards in the Saturday's 
battles. On Sunday he was 
sick and turned over his 
command to good health. He 
is now better & ready to 
serve for the field. The 
Governor not to be too hard 
on him. There must be a more 
intelligent man in the performances of duty. I understand that 
Major Cunningham of the same 
regt. has been working all the 
against the 1st. & 2nd. West Virginia 
which for its the cause to the Gov 
& made no communications down 
to them of Gallow. Him my 
kind regards to Mr. Gibson 
when you see him. He came 
open into Former. Succes to him 
Some of your friends suggest
Geneva, Dec. 20th, 1862,

Gen. O. P. Howard,

Dear Sir,

Your beautiful and highly finished silver knife and fork for Master Howard was received by yesterday's mail.

As he is too young to thank you himself, permit me, as his sponsor, to express the honor conferred upon him in presenting a gift from one whose name and character he will early be taught to love & imitate.

This pleasant remembrance of army friendships and experiences, though a perfect surprise, is grateful to our hearts, and for it please accept from Mrs. Menell.
and myself our sincere appreciation and thanks.

Praying the Lord to shield you in the perils of battle I remain

Very Respectfully

Andrew Marsell.
Portland Decm. 20 1862

Mrs O O Howard

Dear Miss

I intended to write you before - My business prevented me the day you left Portland from assisting you & Gurne with your Burelles to the Cars - I Enclose the Bill paid Powell & Senter & the two dollars which I have charged at a very trifling discount

I have purchased for you two Shares in Pueblo Bank which I will forward after getting the Certificate - which will leave due Still to you $15 dollars including interest that I owe you -

we have all contemplated the Battle at Fredericksburg - Glad to hear that your good Husband has been preserved. May the Lord still watch over him & keep him Safe - your Affectionate Uncle

Love to all

Ed Wallace
[Handwritten text not legible]
Head Quarters 2nd Div.
2nd Corps near Palnarth
Va. Dec. 21, 1862.

My dear Sony,

I received your good and welcome letter with Mammas, which was written a week ago today. I mean to answer you tonight. I have also received a letter in which she tells me about her new year, I shall try and write her very soon. Papas now lives in a tent by himself. Capt. Buchanan and Mr. without him 60 days. Papas had some boys about your part being cut & split into three. Then he had a circular saw turned dry, x 3. Works two feet deep and then split the logs side by side & fill up.

Yours 
[Signature]
This he spends the tent over three tops & in the long days & holds it up by three poles. The main place is at the back of the tent and you cannot see it. Please can show you how it looks there. The chimney wood is in the tent & looks like picture. A pair of chairs is far from the hearth. Papa has services in his tent this morning. All the white boys & all the colored boys came in and Mrs. Whittington and Papa read a talk to them about Jesus. We had a real good meeting. This afternoon

Jeff Whittington & Papa went to see the poor wounded soldiers. Some had lost arms & some legs. They all looked very cheerful & some were trying to look to Jesus for strength. Poor boys. Papa hopes they will bless them in His own way with much comfort.

Give lots of love to Janie & Margaret.
We are all quiet & well. Much Charlie & Papa talk much pleasure in looking at your picture. Papa hopes you love the Servises with all your heart.

Your loving love,

V. W. Whittington

P.S. Love to Lottie & Mrs. Clarke.
Portland Dec. 22, 1862
Mr. O O Howard
Dear Sir,

I now send you the two shares of Bank Stock which will draw interest from October last, the interest that I owe you makes the balance now due to you $15.00, which I can send to you at any time.

We expect to go to Maine on Wednesday and spend Christmas with Josie and return on Sat. Next Week.

Hoping this will find you and the children all well.

I remain your affectionate uncle

Ed. Reitie
Dec. 15 1862

Lena [illegible]

My dear little daughter,

Mrs. [illegible] has promised you the next letter. The [illegible], you dined morning a very "Merry Christmas." You will not have the sign of it from [illegible] life. This year and the wish will not reach you till thistime is all over, but yet [illegible] hope his little daughter will have a merry Christmas. To a Happy New Year. May remember Dr. [Illegible] he was worked and got quite unwell after the battle. So [illegible] want to see him and invited him to come over to stay a few days with him in [illegible] large tent.
Proops has had a close watch to his tent since he wrote last and Dr. Wynn's merchant estate for his return to my house as you see. The inside is a little

Stronger now than the drawing would show. In the first place I had no boards to cover the ground floor but now I have had the

amount of some old boards and by hitting them up I have got a very good floor.

This got me a piece of comfort a square piece that I just right in front of the

fire. Everybody says what a

stomach I have when he comes in. Give lots of love to

Grandma and Grandpa. I hope the Coopers are

everything to you all in his

loving kindness. Very truly,

E. J. Thomas
Near Falmouth Va.
Dec 20 1862

My dear Mother,

I desire to make you a New Year's present and having nothing to send but money, I forward the enclosed with the request that you buy something that will add to your comfort.

Perry was wounded in the last battle, about as badly as Church was at Fair Oates.

I saw John Allen two days ago. I heard nothing. Hawes will. So was Draper Howard. Come to Hattah Hall.

Your affectionate Son

W.T. Howard
Dear Sister,

I am very glad to hear that you are well. I trust that you will excuse me for not writing sooner. I have just received your letter and have mailed it December 26th. It contained the three blank cards which I have written on to the satisfaction of Uncle. I am always looking forward to the arrival of the mail.

I was always looking forward to the arrival of the mail. Uncle came in with my Christmas and New Year's presents. I have just finished writing you a couple of days to write to you and I am very glad that this would be done. The weather has been duller and more uncomfortable than I expected. It should be. Uncle Sedgwick has been out in the cold and unhealthful climate of the east and I have only my own opinion to attach to. The weather is a little warmer now and I do not feel so strong as I wish you did, though I am well and endure a great deal of suffering. I have tried to recover and feel better after a few

With love to Mary and Lizzie, to yourself, children. Off to

[Signature]
they would not have me. When I think of you my patient little wife suffering so much without complaint, I do not feel that I have a right to say 'I am tired.' Dr. Wingham spent two days with me and went back evidently refreshed. The eye was dead, the flesh thin, the looks worn. Mr. Sedgwick takes the next house and I have applied for Dr. Trask, and I have applied for Dr. A. Trask, in their place, and shall probably get them. You can hardly think how pleasant this is. I have got me a white table cloth and a full bundle cotton stripe from some place. My ground floor is now really worn with boards and my feet when I move very cheerful. I am just on big legs which last all right. I do like to live in a house with a little wife in it, would you? So I went to the tent. Cen. Sedgwick, who died with us today, explained as to coming in. What a beautiful tent! and I went as we left it as a house. His friends have you. Then Sally has been assigned to his Division. She has been a reduction of fluids of late. Mr. Trask's corps there is not our Commanding General. All our wounded dead or on the shelf. I did hope for success in the last battle. I prayed for it. When Brooke's men were giving way, but it was not the will of God. Oh. We must wait on him and learn His will. I then did it. Would that He would give me the wisdom. I wanted to tell you that our noble General Brooke was taken sick and obliged to leave. He expected to return but I doubt if he will. I like Mr. Sedgwick. I believe I always have good commanding officers at least.
a week. Have you been
kissing to your little children.
We have been talking
of winter quarters, but
I doubt if we get into
any more comfortable than
these we now occupy. I
think we may try another
journey tomorrow before
long. Mr. Stonier, 

Mr. W. 

will can well. Van
is ordered to run. What a
short leave. It is already
Oct 30. The mail came is
writing. Much love to
Mr. W. 

his sister. 

Mrs. Allinghame

Dear Sir

Went out Diary to

New Holland, So.

Dec 2nd 1862

Sevent

Received your kind letter
including Davises, Alexandria &c. last
night. I think it very good work so
good to hear little self. For her having
is inevitable. That was was to
shun them to my chosen friends. I
don't know that I would do that. My
your. For our wife is very sweet
as well as precious. A wild cook
implying criticism would bring
upon a high commandation
would make you jealous, one has
to entertain very peculiar to cten
others feelings when the wife is in
question. Mrs. diner you call letter
I am quite affected about that. To incline
to favor me sick. Perhaps
Mrs. Stonier. If so she writes a
very kind letter. Perhaps Mrs. Blain

(Handwritten text continues on the right page)
I am at last fairly back. But it is not as I expected. 

I wrote to Mr. Marshall and enclosed the letter in a note to you. Now it is too late. He did not tell me why he did not think of it before. I hope he was not much sick as the time he had been admitted to the hospital. Why does he have such cold words as those in it? Yesterday I went with Mr. Stinson to visit an old friend in the hospital. We found him very sick. In our opinion we are not sure just in time to save him. 

The divine service this morning was badly called. The minister was loudly calling the name to believe so well that they might fear the judgment. Trust in the right hand of God. Mr. Marshall and I know that I was present till he got through. I stepped up to

said a word or two and then we passed on. In the evening we had a good meeting at my head quarters.R.

Mr. Kimball and his family, a minister on a visit to town. Mr. Adams our old friend who visited us so often on the Peninsula and The amount of his affection about them has been amazing, all had a chance to sit or stand on the arm of the minister. I must forget about it. Benjamin who came from his brother a mile away. Benjamin felt that he had wandered away. I want to get back to a closer walk with God. We have had beautiful weather, but I have the rain beginning to flutter on my table and from time to time to take some of the wind now. 

The weather has been so unusual that I have come a cluck for more than