
1856 2/4/1863

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1805

Head Quarters 2nd
Corps

Source: Bowdoin

[309]

Head Quarters 2nd Corps
February 4, 1863

Dearest,

Dr. Wiggin has resigned, was here yesterday and took three hundred dollars to carry to you. I have drawn my pay up to the close of January. I received notice of my commission or rather appointment as Major General to date from Novr 29, so I drew the back pay due from increased rank. Now I hear that the Senate sent back the names of all the nominees to the President without confirming them. But as I have the appointment and no news official to the contrary I shall continue to sign myself as Major Gen. The Corps is still in my hands. But I am expecting a breaking up of Grand divisions, which will be likely to give me my division again: a thing not to be regretted, for if I leave I must lose Capts. Whittlesey, Bulloch and Owen. A recent order makes those officers fixtures. I dont know what made people report that Capt. Whittlesey was going to leave us. Professor Packard promises to do everything he can for him during his absence.

Some Furloughs are now being granted to officers and enlisted men, a few to each. Do you think you and Guy or Gracie could make the journey to Phila to meet me by and by? I have thought Maria's condition of "expectancy" would be a hindrance to our going there. So we would take rooms at a hotel and pay visits. Mrs Greble with her little charge would be delighted to see us. I fear the journey would be too much for you, but you will know best. You can take your time to come on and if you had to wait a day or two for me you would'nt mind it. Both Guy & Grace might come and it might do them good, but the care would be greater for you. Now do not feel that you must come, but consult your health, strength & that of the children and your own feelings and wishes, darling. I could be with you about seven days.

I sent you by Dr. Wiggin the Photographs of Mr, Mrs, & Miss Alvord. He is with us a great deal & we have a great love for him. He continues to distribute to the soldiers books and tracts. On Sunday evenings we continue to have services in my tent. They are a kind of prayer meeting. Mr Alvord is often present and two or three times we have had strangers here. Last Sunday Mr Stinson's uncle Mr Stanwood of Boston was here, a week ago Rev. Mr. Means of Roxbury and the week before that Rev. Dr Childs. The two latter entertained us by some very interesting remarks.

A week ago we were astonished by two ladies dropping in upon us Mrs Harris and Mrs Parish. They are Secretary & agent respectively of the Ladies Aid Society of Phila. and are going about among the soldiers trying to do good. Mrs Harris about your size only considerably older & Mrs Parrish is not quite as large as Mrs Symington. How indignant Mrs S must be in these times. I would rather fight a battle than meet her in politics.

Give much love & many kisses to the children and our kind Father have us all in His Holy Keeping.

Lovingly your own
Otis
January 13, 2016

1857 2/8/1863

From: C.H.H. [CH Howard]

To: My dear Lizzie [Howard]

OOH-1806

Headquarters 2nd Divn
Near Falmouth Va.

Source: Bowdoin

[310]

Headquarters 2nd Divn
Near Falmouth Va.
Feb. 8 1863

My dear Lizzie

I have for some time intended writing you. Those remembrances of little Jamie and his mention of me are irresistible. I hope you will try and make him understand that "uncle Charlie" loves him very much and cannot bear the thought that he (Jamie) will forget him. I am glad he has got safely thro' the measles. They are quite fatal to the soldiers who are having them out here.

Otis visited the hospitals today in company with Mrs. Owen riding round in an ambulance. Mrs. O. has been with us about a week – came out to nurse up the Captain's sprained ankle. She is a very kind & pleasant lady – youthful appearing so much so that Mr. Stinson thought she was the Captain's wife instead of Mother. Her other son has recently got appointed Capt. in the Commissary Dept. Mrs. O. was chiefly instrumental in procuring his appointment – visiting the President in person for that purpose.

Otis got pretty tired in going to so many hospitals. This with the other duties of the day & a meeting here this evening has made him go to bed earlier than usual. He has just got fixed down for the night upon his Couch wrapped in his Robe with a soldiers over coat over his feet. He was just talking with Uncle Hicks who sleeps here now that Mrs Alvord has gone away with his tent. Uncle H. sleeps upon the carpet upon the ground by the side of Otis' bed. He has a mattress which he puts down. He took part in the meeting tonight by offering a prayer. One of the soldiers (of Hd Qrs) arose & spoke very well.

Otis rec'd another copy of the "Age" tonight. We had got one before sent by Mr. Patterson of Augusta. This has another article rather severe upon your husband as a letter-writer. It was sent by Mr Farwell. These pieces seem to be rather strained as tho' the editor feared the influence of Otis' letter upon many of his own party who should read it and so sought by a strenuous effort to counteract it.

Otis was relieved from the Corps, yesterday by the Grand Divn being broken up, and I was thusly relieved from arduous duty as adjutant General what I have been attending to for more than a week.

Give much love to Guy & Grace. Their pictures stand here upon their father's table looking at me or else at two big apples on the same table. Uncle Hicks keeps us well furnished with apples 3 bbls. in this tent for safe keeping from thieves, & the frost. Otis wont go to sleep but just made us all laugh by a remark.

I fear I am too stupid to write; at any rate my sheet is full so good night & a prayer for you

from yr loving br.
C.H.H.

1858 2/10/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard] *To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1807 Head Quarters 2nd Div

Source: Bowdoin

[311]

Head Quarters 2nd Div
Feb 10, 1863

Dearest,

I got your letter mailed Feb 6 last night. I hope poor little Jamie's "lameness & ear ache" are all over by this time. I should like to go home, but I feel that it is due to the poor men who have been kept away from their families so long to stay.

I find my left chest developing so fast at the expense of the other that I believe I shall go to Phila for a few days to get the arm fitted. I may not be able to wear it all the time but it will keep up the strength & muscles of the right side, if I can use it even a part of the time. I should be made happy to meet you, but not while the children are unfit to leave or to take. If it was as good weather with you as it is here just at present, you might let Jamie be your beau. I am almost afraid to risk you traveling alone in these days. But not to disappoint you, if you can make it all right & proper & safe to meet me with or without the children, telegraph me thus: "Gen. O.O. Howard 2nd Div 2nd Corps, near Falmouth Va. I leave Augusta this A.M. all well. Mrs Howard". If you leave Boston by one of the Boats, you will not be far from N.J. Ferry. Take cars, not "Camden & Amboy". When you get to Phila, if you do not meet me at Depot drive to "The Continental" take a room and await me there. We can go thence to see Maria & Mrs Greble. The Continental is on Chestnut Street. You must write also for fear the telegraph might miscarry. I shall wait two weeks for the telegraph dispatch. Any time between this & two weeks I can go.

Give much love to our little children. I was much pleased with Grace's letter. Capt Whittlesey's little boy wrote him or printed him a letter and ran the letters, all together. Gracie left very wide spaces between her words. The weather was exceedingly pleasant yesterday.

I fear I shant be able to get ten days if I put it off very long. I am still on a military Commission for the trial of citizens for aiding the rebels. We meet at the Phillips house, 3 miles off. Genls Pleasanton & Grigg, Cols. Garrard & others, Capt De Russy Judge Advocate. These are old Army officers. Pleasanton & DeRussy I knew in Florida.

Chas went over with me yesterday (tuesday) and met Capt Henry Wier who is now asst Adj. Genl. for Genl Grigg. Mr Gilbreth's son staid with me last night, seemed to enjoy sleeping on my carpet wonderfully. He thinks our mud is rather deep. Charlie & I visited the 3d Me. yesterday. Dexter Howard has been made a Sergt, is now hearty & strong. Capt. Jno. Keen of Leeds is very fleshy and seems to enjoy military life.

I hope my friends in Maine will not feel called upon to answer Mr Pike's strictures. I wrote before the Proclamation came out. It seems to me that Mr Pike shows more hostility to the Government than to me. I do not even feel offended. I trust we may conduct ourselves according to the will of God, this year & that He will grant us this blessing.

Many kind regards to all my friends & enemies at home & God bless you all.

Affectionately & lovingly yr husband
Otis

1859 2/14/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1808

Head Quarters 2nd
Divn 2nd Corps.
Near Falmouth Va.

Source: Bowdoin

[312]

Head Quarters 2nd Divn
2nd Corps. Feb 14, 1863
Near Falmouth Va.

Dearest,

It is getting pretty late and we have had reading and prayers, but I cant go to bed without telling you that I have thought much of this day 8 years ago, since then how much of experience in the retrospect. You seem just as young, just as beautiful and I think a little more so to me now. There is so much freshness in our lives. I would like lover-like to pay my addresses to you tonight – never mind the wedding dress, nor the tiny slippers, nor the choice cake – to me it would be a wedding night if I were home even without the bonfire. Good night.

(Sunday 15th) I was too tired last to continue. Capt. Owen having sprained his ankle and it taking so long for it to get well Mrs Owen his mother came to see him. Capt. Balloch being away on his twenty day's furlough, she has occupied his tent. Of an evening Mrs Owen, Capt Owen, Capt Whittlesey, Charles and myself constitute the company gathered before my fire to hear Capt. Whittlesey read the paper. He is an excellent reader. Such was the assemblage last night. After we got through Capt. W read the 50th Chapter of Is. and led us in prayer.

I went to bed thinking of home and particularly of my patient and loving little wife. I rather expect to get a word by telegraph from you this week. I hope Guy, Gracie and Jamie are entirely well. I am anxious to hear. I do hope you are not broken down by "Jamie lame" and Guy & Gracie sick. I feel as though I would like to meet you in Phila and rather long for no Providential hindrance. But in all things we must say & feel "Thy will not mine be done".

I have not heard from Wm Merrick for a long time. "The mother's expectation" may or may not have been realized at his house. I dont know, for my department of information is rather limited. I am glad you heard from Mrs. Greble. I feel more real appreciation of her loss, since I was there.

Charles & Harry Stinson went on a visit to the 5th Me yesterday; found the Regt. on Picket and had to make a journey, reckoning both ways, of some twenty miles or more. Mr Gilbreth's son is at present with Gen. Owen, as Volunteer Aid De Camp. He messes with Gen. Owen & Capt. Hiram Hayes Qr. Mr. I had no place for him. My staff is full and when not on the march, there is hardly work enough for what I have to keep them busy.

I perceive that Gen Rosecrans & other officers besides myself, have been guilty of "military impertinence" and have published denunciations stronger than mine of home-traitors who are trying to weaken our hands that we may be conquered & that our country may be destroyed. I am very hopeful of final success. All it needs is nerve in the army, nerve in the Government and nerve in the Nation. I hope you are enjoying a very pleasant and profitable sabbath with the children.

I have received a present from the orderlies & clerks at these Head Qrs. of a beautiful set of shoulder straps. It was unexpected from them. This is the second mark of respect & affection shown me in this manner by enlisted men.

Charles is present talking & reading to me as I write. I am accustomed to do two or three things at the same time. He sends his love. He hopes the Genl. may be induced to take his personal stuff with him by you, if you are coming to meet him at Phila.

Much love & many kisses to Guy, Grace & Jamie. I want Jamie's picture more & more. May God have you in His Holy Keeping & give us & our loved ones His blessing.

Your loving husband
Otis

My kind regards to Mrs Clark and Lottie. Remember me to Mrs. Stinson.

1860 2/14/1863 *From:* E. Whittlesey

To: Maj. Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-1809

Source: Bowdoin

Head Quarters 2d Div.
2d Corps
Camp near Falmouth
Va.

[315]

Head Quarters 2d Div. 2d Corps
Camp near Falmouth Va. Feb. 14, 1863

Will Maj. Gen. Howard accept this pitcher as a slight expression of their sincere respect & of their congratulations upon his well-earned promotion. Its material, tho' pure and precious, is but an imperfect symbol of our friendship. It is for daily use; and if, in after years, amid the joys of home, it shall often recall those who are now proud to aid your efforts in our Country's cause, it will as often assure you of our unabated affection and interest in your welfare.

E. Whittlesey A.A.G.
W.H. Owen, Capt. A.Q.M.
Geo. W. Balloch Capt & C.S.
Franklin Dyer, Surgeon
C.H. Howard A.D.C.
A.J. Atwood, A.D.C.
H.M. Stinson
H.R. Steele

1861 2/14/1863

From: A. Howard

To: Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-1810

Joppa Village, E.
Bridgewater,
Mass.

Source: Bowdoin

[313]

Gen. O.O. Howard

Dear Sir,

It gave me much pleasure to have your kind reply to my letter, which I received on the 9th, and I was glad to find myself not in error in regard to your genealogy. Receive my thanks for what you wrote me. I remember your grandfather, Capt. Seth Howard, and of his calling to see my mother, his cousin, on a visit he made to West Bridgewater, from Leeds, Maine, where he had a splendid farm.

John Howard, the first American ancestor of the Howards of (ancient) Bridgewater, Mass. who died about A.D. 1700, had sons John, James, Jonathan, & Ephraim, and daughters Elizabeth, Sarah, & Bethiah, and through them a very numerous posterity. Jonathan had a son Seth, the grandfather of Capt. Seth Howard your grandfather. Two of the first named John's sons, viz. Jonathan and Ephraim, were my great-great granfathers, from the circumstance that my grandfather Eliakim Howard married his 2nd cousin, Mary, daughter of the first named Seth Howard.

The ancestral letter adverted to, was carefully handed down - as a kind of heir-loom - in the line of direct descendants from John oldest son of our first American ancestor John Howard. It was addressed as the superscription reads:

"For her loving son John Hayward. In case he be dead, to George Hayward, in New England."

Its contents are as follows:-

London, August 16th, 1652.

Loving Son, - Having a fit opportunity by a friend to send to you, I could not out of my motherly care to you and your brother, do less than write these few lines to certify you that both I and your sister are in good health, praised be God! And that I earnestly desire to hear from you both - how you do, and in what condition you are both. Your sister desires to be remembered to you both; and she and I have sent you some small tokens of you. I have sent George three bands and an hand-kerchief, and an hand-kerchief for yourself; and I have sent you a shilling to pay for writing a letter, if by long silence you have forgot. I wonder, son, you should so forget your mother, whose welfare she [desires] more than any thing in the world. Your sister hath sent you a book of your father's to you, and a Bible to George. Did we conceive you were alive, I would have sent you better tokens, child. With my blessing to you both, desiring to hear from you and George - [whether] you ever intend [to return] and how your cousin Sarah doth - with my daily prayers to the Lord for you, I rest.

Your loving Mother
Mary Hayward"

Such is the letter, though handed down for so long a period, before it was printed in 1847, several words became obliterated and are replaced by those in brackets. And the sentiments, do they not do honor to their pious author? The tone of religious feeling which the letter breathes throughout, I think we should agree in saying, would do honor to any mother in any age.

Counting from her, your father was of the 6th generation, he and I were second cousins. No further back can we reckon in the Howard ancestry. Her son John always wrote his name Haward and so did all his descendants till after AD. 1700. But always in ancient Bridgewater was it pronounced Howard.

I admire your writing with the left hand.. So good is it, I think you could hardly have excelled it before the loss of your right arm.

I supplicate the Lord for our beloved country in the contest now waged, that He would qualify and dispose us to look up to Him and be with us, would prepare us for and make us meet to receive His Devine benediction.

Affectionately
A. Howard
Joppa Village, E. Bridgewater,
Mass. Feb. 14th 1863.

1862 2/15/1863

From: J.A. Smith
Lieut. Corps of
Engineers
West Point N.Y.

To: Mrs O.O. Howard

OOH-1811

Source: Bowdoin

[314]

West Point N.Y.
February 15th 1863.

Mrs. Howard,
Dear friend,

It is a very long time since I have heard from you, or your family, so you will, perhaps, pardon the liberty I take in writing. I am very often asked about yourself, your family, and your good husband. I can only answer them that I have seen none of you in a long time, and that your brother Rowland Howard had told me you were staying in Augusta. Since I saw you I have been in the field, (during Pope's campaign in Va.) was quite severely hurt, and had a very severe illness, from which I have not yet entirely recovered, and fear I never shall. I was at home quite a long time, and then was ordered here, as an instructor, on account of my ill health.

Things at West Point are somewhat changed since you left. New families have come and others gone. Miss Clara French was married to Lieut. Pennington of the Artillery, a little more than a week ago. Miss Jennie Gray still lives with her mother near Buttermilk Falls, and desires to be very kindly remembered to you. She is the authoress of a book which has just appeared, but which I fear will meet but little favor.

Our friends, Prof. French and family desired me to remember them to you, with many expressions of regards. How are your family? Little Guy, Gracie, and the little darling, that was so shamefully cheated out of his God father? It really makes me feel ashamed of myself, every time I think of the funny circumstance, connected with his baptism.

The Sunday school still prospers, I am still the Superintendent. It is much larger than when you were here. The prayer-meetings are also still continued in the Corps. I always attend them when I can. Cadet Townsend, of whom I presume you have heard, died here a little more than a month ago; he was in the first class.

Please remember me to my kind friend, your husband, also to Charlie H. If I knew their address I would write to them. A kiss to the children from me, while I remain

As ever, Your friend
J.A. Smith
Lieut. Corps of Engineers

Mrs O.O. Howard

1863 2/16/1863 *From:* Blanche Berard

To: Dear Mrs [Lizzie] Howard

OOH-1812

Source: Bowdoin

[315]

Monday Feb 16th 1863

Dear Mrs Howard

Intending everything and accomplishing nothing has been the record of the last year. Writing to you has long been on the list of "to be dones," but epistolary claims, of all others have been the ones oftenest sent to the wall. But I must not consume this square bit of paper and time in apologies. Sallie Greble came on to her Sister Clara's wedding and told me that she had had a charming evening from Genl Howard on his way back to the seat of war. Since then none of his friends here, I believe, have heard from him. If you can forgive me and write, and tell us all about your selves, I shall feel truly grateful. Tell me about the children especially.

There have been several additions to the population of the Post lately. Mrs Wheeler has a 3d daughter, Mrs Benet a son, Mr Mendell a little girl, & a Mrs A.T. Smith a son. I am sorry to say that Mrs Mendell's child is very very ill, and but little hopes are entertained of its recovery. One very sad piece of news, which has made us all really heart-sick is that poor Mrs Simpson in a fit of insanity attempted the life of her husband. This occurred a week ago last Saturday. She was committed for assault with intent to kill, and taken to Newburgh. She at first refused to accept bail, but has consented within a few days back & is I understand now ill in Albany. She is to be tried, I hear but I cannot doubt that her insanity on that subject (jealousy of Joe) will become so apparent, that the case will be dismissed.

I believe there is little else of W.P. news to interest you. Mr Watson was with Mrs Benet during her confinement, and asked with much interest after you. Mama is pretty well. Major Vogdes I hear is promoted and awaiting orders which will take him into the field. Sister and the children are pretty well. Grace Berard is ill with Erysipelas but I hope doing well. The other children somewhat ailing and poor Robert having a hard time as usual. They talk of a new Presbyterian Church at Buttermilk & have a good deal of money subscribed for it. Edward Kinsly gave \$500 towards it! The present minister, Mr Frissell seems to give satisfaction. Jenny Grey has just published a novel - "Tactics or Cupid in shoulder-straps". Such a barrage of stuff you never read I am sure. John Weir has gone to N.Y. setting up artist for himself. He is, in <dit>, engaged to Mamie French. I wonder if any one has ever told you of the De Janon baby going on two years old? A splendid boy. But Minnie's baby - little Kate is just the sweetest specimen of baby-hood you ever saw. She was with us 2 mo's this Fall.

Give love & kisses to the little ones, & believe me

Yr truly loving friend
Blanche Berard

1864 2/19/1863

From: C.H.H. [CH Howard]

To: My dear Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

OOH-1813

Source: Bowdoin

Head quarters 2nd Divn
2nd Corps
Near Falmouth Va.

[316]

Head quarters 2nd Divn 2nd Corps
Near Falmouth Va.
Feb. 19 1863

My dear Mother,

After a hard rain all day yesterday and last night, we have a cessation this morning and some indication of fair weather again. I scarcely went out of my tent; at most only into the neighboring ones here at Hd. Qrs. I have not been upon my horse since last Saturday night when I returned with Mr. Stinson, as I think I wrote you, from a visit to the left of the Army and the 5th Maine.

Otis asked me this morning whether I would not like to go with him to Philadelphia as he intends to take a Leave of ten days soon. I told him I would be compelled to get some clothes if I did so and that perhaps I had better not go. He said I could go if I chose and I will consider the matter meanwhile.

I heard this morning that Gen. Sumner was hoping to have a command in the West and that he said he should try and get this Corps (2nd) in such a case. I would prefer to go West for the sake of seeing the country and having a change.

Mrs. Owen went to Washington Monday, Capt. O. with her. He has returned and she gone home to Brooklyn N.Y. She has no family but her two sons in the Army so will visit her friends and not keep house.

Capt. Balloch returned day before yesterday whose tent Mrs. O. had occupied. He comes back very happy after his visit to N.H., the first for two years nearly.

Gen. Caldwell (whose Brigade (formerly Howard's) is in the 1st Divn of this Corps) has just returned having been absent since the battle of Fredericksburg where he was slightly wounded.

Otis has written for Lizzie to come on to Philad'a, but wonders that he gets no answer.

Our army constantly feels the presence of Hooker as an energetic and stirring General. He will yet, I confidently believe, strike a hard blow at the Rebellion. You know I am not inextricably attached to any General or any man; but I pray and trust that nothing whether it be moral or physical power, can sever me from my love of my country or turn me from the duty I owe her under God.

I have been reading some Rebel papers and I find renewed evidence of what I had believed before, that our enemies are terribly in earnest and a large portion generally think, as did Paul, that they are doing God service. Now shall we be less in earnest while we expect the blessed moment, when Jesus the Lord shall strike them down and turn the hearts of such as He wills, so that they shall perceive that they have been fighting against God? We are pained to see that there are so many traitors at home. Still it is more natural than to have all united and true to the best interests of the world and the Kingdom of Christ. Perhaps a want of success ought not to discourage – it certainly ought not to surprise us in view of the wickedness and pride of our nation. How can God bless us till we become more humble? He cannot admit an individual soul into his Kingdom till he becomes as a little child, humble, meek, trustful. Of a similar spirit must be the nation that receives his continued and highest favor.

I hear from Dellie and Rowland often. The prayers of the faithful are one great source of hope to us. Herein you can lend a help – perhaps greater than that of a Regiment or Brigade in the field.

With love to those who love me. I am dear Mother

Yr Affectionate Son
C.H.H.

P.S. I enclose another letter from Rev. Adonis Howard giving that ancient letter spoken of in his last. Please keep it for us.

1865 2/19/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1814

Hd Qrs 2nd Div &c
Near Falmouth Va

Source: Bowdoin

[317]

Hd Qrs 2nd Div &c
Near Falmouth Va
Feb. 19, 1863

Dearest

So many mails have come & no letter from you that I am considerably worried about it. I cant read by any of the papers that snow storms have blocked you up. Mrs Stinson relieves me a little by writing to Harry that you are going to send a box, but she says no more. Perhaps you & she are coming on this time in the box, but I fear that the children or yourself darling have got sick so as to prevent your writing.

I have applied for a leave of ten days and shall be more than delighted if all things are so that you can meet me in Phila. I shall probably start in about three days from today, say Saturday or Monday. I hope I may get your telegram before that.

Give much love to Guy, Grace & Jamie the little trio.

May God bless you all. My kind regards to Mrs Clark & Lottie. Also remember me kindly to Mrs Stinson. Charlie has a slight attack of dysentery, but is now better – a little sober about it. I think I may take him to Phila with me. Capt Balloch has got back, so has Gen Caldwell. I am waiting for Genl Hancock's return & your telegram. Col Sewall has resigned & is going home for good. Capt Whittlesey is quiet, hearty, contented. He has not resigned. Lt Col Heath a leave for 15 days, went home to Waterville and got married. He has just returned to Camp leaving his wife in Washington.

I will not write more tonight but I do hope you are all well. Poor little Jamie I want to hear that he is no longer lame, "Jamie lame" "Jamie cant walk". Kiss him three times for papa.

Much love to yourself, darling. May God bless & keep you well & strong. Papa prays for the bunnies.

Lovingly
Otis

1866 2/28/1863 *From:* C.H.H. [CH Howard] *To:* My dear Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

OOH-1816 West Point N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

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West Point N.Y.
Feb. 28 1863

My dear Mother

I came to this place day before yesterday. Lt. Smith took me into his quarters in the Cadet Barrack (Officers part). It is very pleasant for me to be back here & see so many old friends and to look upon the endeared spots about West Point. The Professors are very cordial. I called upon Profs. Weir, French and Church, the first night. Prof. French is sick with Fever – but getting better.

I attended the Cadet Prayer-meeting which Otis established. Attendance not so large as when I used to be present every week, but I was gratified that the meeting was kept up at all.

Lt. Smith takes Otis' place in conducting the Sabbath School &c. He is from New Sharon Me. & is a fine family man as well as firm friend of mine & Otis.

Last evening we went down and called upon Mrs. Grey & Miss Jeanie. The latter has procured the means and had a house built upon a plan of her own. It is a neat Cottage, with a tower for an observatory - this to get sight of some of the beautiful views up & down river. Their new house is near the "Little Church" or "Church of the Holy Innocents" as it is named, which Prof. Weir built & gave to the poor & the public.

Mrs. G. has been sick but is getting better. Miss Jeanie has written a book & had it published – called "Tactics" or "Cupid in Shoulder-Straps". She did this to get money to support herself & mother & build them a house. It is very successful as to selling. The first edition sold out in a week. It is a Romance & brings in a good deal of West Point life. Miss Jeanie says it is too light and that she don't want her friends to judge her by that book. It is interesting, however, to those who have lived here or who know the author – and I hope it will be quite a source of income.

I have decided to remain over the Sabbath when I will return to N.Y. & finish my visit to Johnny Weir who made me very welcome & with whom I was very happy before coming up here. We are to be back to Washington next Friday.

I do not hear from Otis. Hope I will find a letter from you, one at least & the more the better when I return.

Your affectionate Son
C.H.H.