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1884 4/2/1863

*From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1833

Head Quarters 11th  
Corps

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[332]

Head Quarters 11th Corps  
April 2nd 1863

Dearest,

I started yesterday morning about 9 a.m. for my new command. After riding some 8 or ten miles, I found the Corps, called on Genl Schimmelfennig (If you cant pronounce, just think of me), got an orderly who directed me here, to Stafford C.H. Chas, Harry S. and myself with Michael & McDonald and a spare horse made the ride thru mud and water. John & Mr <Gibb> came with an ambulance & baggage. I found Gen. Schurz here in Charge of the Corps. He is the eloquent, Carl Schurz, friend of the President. My Divn Commanders are, Gen McLean, Gen. Steinwehr, & Gen. Schurz.

All well, love to all & God bless you. More soon.

Lovingly  
Otis

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1885 4/3/1863

*From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1834

*Source:* Bowdoin

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps  
Army of the Potomac  
Stafford C.H.

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[331]

[Letterhead]

Headquarters Eleventh Corps  
Army of the Potomac

Stafford C.H.

April 3d 1863

Dearest,

I wrote you a tiny letter yesterday and perhaps will not do any better today. I had not finished the above sentence before I was interrupted and it has been two hours since. I am learning the regiments and officers. This command is completely new to me. I will enclose a list of the regiments as I have had them drawn up. I presume you & Jamie can pronounce the German names about as well as I. I am going to move Hd. Qrs. to the vicinity of Brooke's station tomorrow. Mr Sylpher came up from my old Camp, says Maj. Whittlesey, Capt Owen, Capt Balloch, Lt. Steele and the Dr are very blue and want to come along. Genl Gibbon our old West Point acquaintance succeeds me in the command of the Divn. Maj Whittlesey says to him at tea "If not disagreeable to you I will ask a blessing as we are accustomed to." Gibbon yields and the blessing is asked. There is some chance of my getting the Major and Balloch and I have made application for Lieut J.A. Smith, West Pt. in order to make him my topographical Eng'r.

(Saturday morning) I had a very satisfactory review of Gen. Schurz's Divn yesterday. This morning at 8, I am to start for Gen. Hooker's Hd. Qrs. to try and effect some important changes in the command. The Germans are considerably jealous at my being sent here. But I believe all will gradually gain confidence in time.

I hope you are well darling this morning, and Guy, Grace & Jamie well and happy. As to Guy going to school across the river I doubt the distance too great, but the objection is that he has to pass daily so much of "down-street." I do hope God will bless his little heart and give him the will and the power to do right. How with Gracie, will she keep on where she is? I shall expect to hear about the "fair" or "levee" in behalf of the soldiers at the State House. Perhaps you only went to the Governor & did not attend the <Line>. The President of the U.S. is expected here today – perhaps I shall see him. Mr Alvord has found his way to my new Quarters, & is writing at my table.

Many kisses from papa & a wish for Heavenly blessings.

Lovingly  
Otis

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1886 4/5/1863

*From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1835

*Source:* Bowdoin

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps  
Army of the Potomac  
Stafford C.H.

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[335]

[Letterhead]

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,  
Army of the Potomac

Stafford C.H.  
April 5th, 1863

Dearest,

I received a letter from you last night and was very glad to find the children doing so well. Jamie must keep off the stove now. Mamma says he is a go-ahead boy. I dont doubt it. I hope you take him up and tell him about the Saviour. Guy has never gotten over his first impressions. We are apt to underrate a child's ability to understand. By trying, as you doubtless do you can lead him quietly to the Lord.

You spoke of Jeannie Gray. I am not going to defend her, but I feel badly that you allow yourself to entertain such thoughts. If you dont like her you need not see her but I wish you did not feel so. I do not let Charlie see what you write about her falseness or faultiness, for fear he will be vexed at you. I have written no article for the "Press". My impression is that opposition would be likely to drive Charles into a proposal. I see no indications of her having set her cap for him. I have talked with him very candidly. He says he used to get a chance to read your letters but now he does not and thinks he must write directly.

Chaplain Quint of Mass came in to see us this morning & had a long talk. Maj Whittlesey is ordered to report to me tomorrow. I think I shall make him commissary of Musters. I am living in a house just now, meant to have got into Camp saturday but failed to obtain new tents. It was very fortunate for a terribly cold snow-storm came on last night.

I rode to Gen. Hooker's & back yesterday a distance of some six or seven miles, and the wind blew very hard & cold. I feared I should take a severe cold as I was without an over-coat. I saw Gen. Seth Williams. Tell any of his friends that you may see and that he never looked in better health and spirits. I believe his department progresses very much to his satisfaction.

The snow lies thick upon the ground this morning. The roads had become very fair but again we will have mud. I am glad of this storm for Gen. Stoneman was going to have a review of the entire cavalry corps, the President of the U.S. being expected here today.

Oh, that we might remember that there is a God in Heaven & obey his commands. Much love and many kisses to all the children and not a few to your own self.

Lovingly  
Otis

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1887 4/9/1863

*From:* O.O. Howard

*To:* Dear Guy [Howard]

OOH-1836

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[333]

[Letterhead

Headquarters Eleventh Corps

Apr 9 1863

Dear Guy,

Papa sends you a very poor sketch of my Head Quarters and you will see the foundation is of logs, but you cannot see the beautiful moss between them, and you cannot look inside and see my nice stove, table, desk, bed, carpet, new chairs and other things. I wish you could look in. We moved here last tuesday. The pioneers came before us & fixed my tent very nicely. They are almost all Germans.

Maj Whittlesey has now come to us. Yesterday we all went to a review of a very large number of men. I think some 60,000 or 70,000 men, four Army Corps – Gen Sedgwick's, the 6th, Gen Couch's the 2nd, Gen Meade's the 5th, and Gen. Sickles the 3d. It took a very long time for them to march past the president.

There were two little boys, sons of the President, at the review, one of them was but little larger than you & rode a very handsome pony. I think he borrowed the pony. He rode about as well as anybody I saw. I should like to have had you there.

The President reviews papas Corps tomorrow.

Give much love to Gracie, Jamie and Mamma. Papa cannot write more now. He hopes you are all very well and love the blessed Saviour very much.

Your affect. Papa  
O.O. Howard

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1888 4/10/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1837

*Source:* Bowdoin

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps  
Army of the Potomac  
Near Brooke's Station

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[336]

Headquarters Eleventh Corps  
Army of the Potomac  
Near Brooke's Station  
Apr 10 1863

Dearest,

John says, as he sees me preparing to get up: "It is'nt six yet." "Well, so much the more time to write a letter before breakfast." I wrote Guy yesterday, but I have'nt written you since we moved from Stafford C.H. into Camp.

I wish you could see how tastefully the pioneers have arranged my camp and what a beautiful tent they have fixed for me. They made a fence surrounding the Hd. Qrs. camp with a beautiful gateway trimmed with evergreens: it is shaped something like this: [Sketch of the gateway] you go through that gate and enter a handsome street on the right and left are the tents of the staff and straight before you is my tent with a flag pole and a sentinel in front of it. You will see a crescent over my door of evergreen - that is my corps badge.

You enter the tent, if you dont stop to look at me writing at the desk at the further end, you will see over me my sign-board thus: [sketch of the sign-board]. The words of today are <sins> what must I do to be saved &c. also, Acts 13.38 & 39 – Romans 5.1 and 8.1. This arrangement is called "the silent comforter", and is made for every day in the month. It answers for an almanac & preaches to my visitors and gives me much comfort. On your right you will see a house-made stove [sketch of the stove]. On your left in the corner some shelves, used for wash stand [sketch of the shelves]. Then four chairs, then trunk & bed in the 2nd corner. On the right after the stove comes the square table, then the clothes' horse, thus: [sketch], shoes, boots, &c under the horse. Johns bed is rolled up neatly in the corner - up high is the hat rack [sketch].

My back has been towards you. Now I think I will turn around and give you a kiss, if you have looked long enough.

The President reviews us today.

God bless, comfort & strengthen you for your long trial.

Lovingly  
Otis

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1892 4/16/1863     *From:* Rowland [RB  
Howard]

*To:* Dear Brother Otis [OO  
Howard]

OOH-1838

Farmington

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[14]

Farmington Apr. 16, 1863

Dear Brother Otis

I write you tonight in preference to Frank & Charles to both of whom I believe I owe letters because Guy is here & I know you will wish to hear about him. He came up last Tues. from Bruns. with Mrs Patten. The next day we went to a "sugaring off" at Dea Titcombs & he had plenty of maple syrup. He went to School one day with Frankie & Otis Sargent & has played with them a good deal. He has worked for me two hours upon the different days at 6 cts. per hour, piling some dry stove wood and shingles. Dadie helped about the latter & said "Papa must pay Dadie". Guy wants to get enough to buy a drum, but he put 3 cts in the contribution of the S.S. Today. All the S.S. get verses of Scripture & poetry with some read in each to recite at S.S. Concert. Tonight it was "Angel" & Guy recited these verses "He will give his Angels charge over thee to keep thee in all thy ways" & "Dear Angel, ever at my side. How loving thou must be, & To leave thy home in Heaven To guard a little child like me."

I preached this a.m. from Phil. 2.21: "For all seek their own & not the things that are Jesus Christs." in "Selfishness". P.M. on Isa. 58.3. "Behold on the day of your fast ye find pleasure & exact all your labors." "How to keep Fast Day – (Next Thursday)

- (1) To avoid mere amusement
- (2) To avoid labor
- (3) To be mindful of our Sins & danger as a people
- (4) To seek Gods blessing on the unknown & blood-stained future.

In short to keep an acceptable Fast to the Lord. May He help us all to do it. Since meeting Alice has been reading to me in the Tract Primer & she & Guy have spelled in the same class. He taking the hard words & she the easy ones. Ella says tell Otis I am trying to straighten him (Guy) & Rowland up! Alice is to have her picture taken – if she is a good girl & learns well. I am hoping to do good this week.

We have seen the Order for you to change to the 4th Corps, but are entirely ignorant of that Command and hardly know whether to congratulate you or not. All western troops – lacking in discipline & cleanliness we fear. As I hear of the gathering of these mighty hosts to battle, I feel we need a true fast.

I hope we will have the monthly letter. Our Concert comes the 2d Sab in each month & it requires about ten days for a letter to come from your present place.

Love to Charlie & Frank from Ella, Guy & yr. Aff. Bro.  
Rowland

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1889 4/12/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* My dear Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

OOH-1839

*Source:* Bowdoin

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps  
Army of the Potomac  
Near Brooke's Station

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[96]

Headquarters Eleventh Corps  
Army of the Potomac  
Near Brooke's Station  
Apr. 12th 1863

My dear Mother,

Chas has gone to Washington, went yesterday, and I thought you might not get your usual letter from Camp. I presume he has told you about the President's visit & how Mrs Lincoln paid my humble tent a visit. She was very pleasant and ladylike, but I dont think her quite so much of a woman as my own mother.

We had a very pleasant religious service at these Hd. Qrs. today at 11 a.m. had good singing, and quite good preaching from a chaplain. The force at Corps Head Quarters consists of a pioneer Company of about 50 with axes, shovels & other tools – a Provost Guard of 90. I take convalescents for this duty – a small detachment of mounted men, and the servants. There are thirteen or fourteen staff officers. My Corps is a good one and I do not think it will tax my strength much more than a Divn. There is additional responsibility and therefore greater need of trust in God. But I believe: "The Lord is my shepherd and I shall not want."

Charlie has been promoted to a Captain and I expect he is fitting himself with new marks of office. You ought to see how nicely these Germans have fixed my tent. It is nicely walled with logs with green moss between, and when my bed comes, the inner part is ceiled with boards. I have a nice little stove & a clothes horse – made by the pioneers.

Give much love to father. The weather has been very pleasant for a few days past with us. Today I have plucked some "May flowers" which are in a glass before me. My kind regards to Miss Shaw, to Roland & family, to Capt Turner & fam. Where is Oscar [Turner] now? I must be near George Bates I think. Is he in the 12th Corps? Lizzie writes that the children have bad colds. We hear from Rowland occasionally. I hope you are very well and have enjoyed the Sabbath very much. Pray for us Mother as you have done.

Yr. Affectionate Son  
Otis

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1890 4/12/1863

*From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1840

*Source:* Bowdoin

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps  
Army of the Potomac  
Near Brooke's Station

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[337]

Headquarters Eleventh Corps  
Army of the Potomac  
Near Brooke's Station  
Apr. 12th 1863

Dearest,

It is a beautiful sabbath morning. I have had a bath, breakfast, made arrangement for services at three, read some in the news-paper and two chapters in the Bible - then with Maj Whittlesey & Mr Sypher took a short walk, gathered a bunch of "May flowers" and returned to tell you. I believe I would have got a letter from you last night had you directed Head Quarters 11th Corps, for it takes a long time to get anything by mail unless it be sent directly to me from the 2nd Corps by an orderly.

(Afternoon) I have had the happiness to get your letter written on the 5th. Sorry for the children's bad colds, and Jamies croup and sorry, sorry for the poor mamma, who has to get up so often at night. I think you are too self-sacrificing darling, for the children, because you must lead a healthy, happy life yourself, to effect what you so much desire. Now you must have amusements, and refreshment yourself in order to afford it. It isn't lost time when you take a short walk or read a pleasant book or chat with a good, kind friend. I feel that it is as difficult for you to do your part in this war as it is for me to do mine, but it is a work that God has imposed. Isn't it sweet to have one place to rest & to know that He will not laden beyond our ability to bear.

I find all things moving on well here. The President & Gen. Hooker came in before the review of my Corps. Mrs Lincoln came to look at & admire my tent. My salute & review were perfect. Corps all on the same slope in masses of regiments.

At 11 we had services - present all staff officers, Divn Genls, Provost Guard, Orderlies, pioneers & servants. A chaplain conducted the service. He was not quite cheerful enough, but he was sensible. At 3 P.M. I attended service at the Camp of the 17th Conn. Gen. McLean is uncle to Lt. Col. Taylor who was on Gen. Sumner's staff. I have applied for Balloch - already have Maj. Whittlesey.

Give much love to our dear little children. Don't over-work, my precious wife. Trust much of it with God. Look forward hopefully & happily for all will be well.

Lovingly,  
Otis

Enclosed 100 dollars. Please acknowledge receipt.



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1891 4/14/1863 *From:* A. C. Adams

*To:* Maj. Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-1841

Auburn

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[338]

Auburn Ap 14, '63

Maj. Gen Howard  
My Dear Friend & Brother,

Will you let me tell you a story about the affairs of our Society. You are perhaps aware that our new church edifice was built by an earnest and almost universal effort of the people, men, women & children giving for it, in sums ranging from twelve hundred dollars down to two dollars - that this was done when ours was the only society and operation on this side the river, & where we had reasonable hope of filling up from the surrounding community - that it was done upon the principle of having no individual ownership & low pew rents, so as to gather in the largest possible number, & to do a good work for our master, as well as for ourselves & our children.

But four new societies have come up, the growth of our community is slower than was anticipated, and, besides the ten thousand dollars we have paid, we have a debt of three thousand dollars, and smaller resources than when we started. The same set of men who have just paid their last installment must do the rest.

It is a time for paying debts and we know not what shall be on the morrow. Mr. Pickard who gave \$1000 at first offered to give \$500 more if we will finish up the rest. The value of the offer depends on his continued life, which is more & more uncertain. I have undertaken the work of raising the twenty five hundred. I feel that almost everything involved in the prosperity of the society depends on my success. If we cannot pay the debt we shall have years of great discomfort & disadvantage. But I mean to have it paid, though our people with few exceptions are so poor & so embarrassed that it will be hard work.

You see then what I am coming to - that if you can find a reason in your brief residence among us, & in your relation to us as a brother in the church, for giving us a lift - more or less as you judge fit - it will be very gladly and gratefully received - by your humble servant if by no one else - and so I leave the matter with your Christian kindness and wise judgment.

I was very glad to hear from you through Sam Hicks. You & your fellow soldiers are remembered in our daily prayers. It is hard to wait for decisive good news from Charleston and elsewhere, but perhaps God is preparing us to keep the Fast Day so that he can bless us. I think the northern people are gaining, at least, a deeper sense of the value of their nationality & of the necessity of sustaining it. I hope they are finding out that they need the Divine favor.

We are having a good deal of sickness & have lost some of our best church members, though not persons who were conspicuous in society.

Please give my kind regards to your brother, to Capt. Whittlesey, & Harry Stinson. Ladies have just raised \$200 by a <levee> to help the Maine soldiers.

Yours with affectionate & Christian regard

A. C. Adams [Reverend Aaron Chester Adams, pastor of the church in Auburn, Maine 1858-1867, was a younger brother of Reverend George Eliashib Adams, the pastor of the Brunswick Congregational Church.]

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1893 4/16/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1842

Head Quarters 11th  
Corps

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[339]

Head Quarters 11th Corps  
Apr 16, 1863

Dearest,

We are all here still. The weather is better this morning for Campaigning. We had yesterday & the night before as hard a rain as I ever saw. Gen Schurz said we ought to be very thankful, we had not started from Camp. Our brigade I sent three days ago some 30 miles from us. The roads must be now nearly impassible. They will dry up, in a couple of days if we have no rain.

You must tell me all about the fair. I thought I ought to write Gracie a letter this morning, but concluded to write mamma first. Papa read a Psalm this morning that made him speak of Gracie – Beginning - The Lord is my shepherd &c. She repeated it when I was at home with a fever. I'm very sorry the children all have such bad colds. Jamie has the croup. I didn't know he was subject to it. I hope it is only temporary. Give much love to Guy.

Capt. Balloch & the little German boy called "Bony" have come over here to live. Gen. Barlow formerly Col 61st N.Y. so seriously wounded at Antietam has been assigned to my command or will be today. He is here – a brave man & complete officer.

Charles has come back from Washington, is now captain Howard. Harry Stinson went with the brigade I mentioned. I shall expect him back tomorrow, perhaps today.

I enclose a hundred dollars. I sent a hundred in my last. I do hope you are not too weary this morning & will not be when this arrives.

God bless you all.

Lovingly  
Otis

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1894 4/20/1863     *From:* John M. Round

*To:* David Tod,  
Governor of Ohio

OOH-1843  
*Source:* Bowdoin

Office of the Noble  
County Military  
Committee  
Caldwell

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[215]

Office of the Noble County Military Committee  
Caldwell April 20, 1863

To his Excellency David Tod,  
Governor of Ohio,

At a meeting of the Military Committee for Noble County Ohio held on the day and year aforesaid it was ordered that the Chairman and Secretary certify that this Committee Recommend Rev. Randall Ross, formerly of Sharon, in said county but Now of the 62nd Reg. Ohio volunteers as a suitable person to Raise, and Command a Regiment of Colored Soldiers for service in the U.S. Army.

And we further certify that from an acquaintance of over ten years, with said Randall Ross, we know him to possess sufficient intelligence literary acquirements and general knowledge of human nature, honesty and patriotism, to eminently fit him for the position Recommended.

John M. Round Chairman  
W.H. Frazier Sec.

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1895 4/20/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1844

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[341]

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,  
Apr. 20th 1863

Dearest,

I received a short letter from you after the fair. You were very tired. I dont like to have you get tired. The months are hastening on. It is already the 20th of April. I am hoping that you have good courage and much strength. We are still here and it is raining again. It is singular how late the season is, but perhaps life will be saved by it. I want a more implicit & specific reliance upon God. Rev. Mr Quint preached for us yesterday here at Hd. Qrs. He gave us a good, nice talk on the necessity of believing, on testimony. Perry Lee, Cols Ames & Chamberlain., also Dr Howard & Rev. Mr Knox of the tenth Me. Gen Jackson has met with a sad accident.

Give much love to Guy, Grace, & Jamie. I hope they are well.

Kind regards to Mrs Stinson. Harry S is still at Kelly's ford.

My regards also to Mrs Clark & Lottie.

But an abundance of love & encouragement to you my darling with a prayer for you.

Lovingly  
Otis

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1896 4/22/1863    *From:* O.O. Howard

*To:* My dear little daughter  
[Grace Howard]

OOH-1845

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[343]

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,  
Apr 22nd 1863

My dear little daughter,

Papa thinks it is time for you to have a letter. Guy must have received his and read it before this time. I would like to look in upon you all this morning. I think you must just now be at breakfast. Jamie just at Mamma's left, bothering her while she is pouring out the coffee. Yourself on her right with a bright happy face and Guy directly opposite ready to laugh, or to tell a story. Uncle Rowland says: "Guy has'nt time to write him a letter." Guy must be very busy. Do you still get impatient when you get tired and cry very hard? Or have you got older and wiser? One time Mamma said you all had bad colds – have you got over them. Jamie was croupy.

Gen. Devens, tell Mamma, has just been sent to command one of Papas divisions. Guy wanted to know if a commander of four Regiments was a Brigadier Genl? A Commander of two or three brigades is a Division Commander, and a Commander of three Divisions is a Corps Commander. Papa is now a Corps Commander. With Jamies blocks or the dominos you can arrange three brigades and call it a division. Make three Divisions & call it a Brigade Corps. [Sketch of two groups of 4 blocks]

John is glad you remember him. He is very good to papa. I dont know how I would do without him, unless I got home when Mamma and my little children would take care of me. It will be very nice when the war is over will it not, so that I can go home to stay. How are Mrs Clark & Lottie – quite well I hope?

And do you go to school to Miss Woodard now? Do you love her as much as you used to? I should think Mamma would be jealous. I suppose you see Mrs Stinson occasionally. Tell her we hear from Harry every day at Kelly's ford. We hope he will come back soon.

Much love to dearest Mamma, little brothers Guy & Jamie. I hope you all pray for papa.

Your affectionate papa  
O.O. Howard

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1897 4/22/1863 *From:* E Waite

*To:* Mrs OO Howard

OOH-1846

Portland

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[344]

Portland April 22d 1863

Mrs OO Howard  
Dear Niece

I now enclose Certificate of 5 Shares Canal Bank Stock, also \$500 of State of Maine Bonds. These Coupons will be paid when due, at any good Bank in the State. They Charged interest on the State Coupons from 1st of March \$4.42 which I did not before reckon, as nothing was said about it when I bargained for it. The Amt I paid Mr Marrett was \$1.38, making \$5.80 due to me which can remain to suit your own convenience. I could not get these Certificates so as to send them before to day.

I was glad to hear of your Husbands welfare and that he could write to you with cheerfulness. May the Lord be with him and protect him through all the dangers he may be called to pass, and again return him in safety to his Family. With much love

your affectionate Uncle  
E Waite

Let me know if all come safe.

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1898 4/24/1863

*From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1847

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps,

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[345]

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,  
Apr 24th 1863

Dearest,

Yesterday I received a letter from you and so did Charles. We have just got thro. another severe rain storm – since I wrote the above words, it has begun to rain again hard, patter patter on my tent driven by a North West Wind. It will probably be a clearing off shower. The rains thus far have hindered the probability of moving effectively, but I believe Gen Hooker has kept a large force of the enemy opposite & caused them of late to reinforce. All this answers every purpose, if provisions are running as low as it is claimed in the rebel country. I expected we should make some movements before this. Harry Stinson with Col Bushbecks German Brigade is still up at Kelly's ford. I hear from them every day.

I feel as if it is especially providential that Abby Abel is with you. I think she is a real good woman and will be a kind friend. I am glad she can sew. I hope the Lord will carry you through this great trial safely and in joy. All I ever fear in your case is over-work, too much self-sacrifice for the children – for example lying in uncomfortable positions or not well covered, in order to give them comfort. The mother must take care of herself for the sake of her children. Dont you think so? Then mind (?)

The last words on my tablet this morning are: "My times are in thy hand." Ps. 31.15. This will apply to both of us. I dont feel so very anxious about you as I would did I not feel that I had committed you into the hands of a loving Heavenly Father.

Charles seldom says anything of Miss Jeannie. She would be very reluctant to accept him without the positive approval of yourself & Ella. Charles said in a letter that he found stormy opposition in home quarters than ours. I told him in the beginning that I should not bother him. I have got a fixed notion that girls change - sometimes they grow into hard cases & sometimes they make the loveliest kind of wives and mothers. He has made up his mind that he has allowed his friends to influence him too much and the very next pretty girl he falls in love with, he will laugh at ministers & Generals & also at minister's & General's wives – and soon he will exhibit a happy household like the rest of us. I would'nt give a fig for a wife somebody else selected for me – would you?

I like Gen. Devens very much. Gen. McLean has gone back to his brigade. Col Lee who commanded the Brigade feels very badly to be displaced. He is a good officer and I feel sorry for him, but La fortune de guerre. Gen Barlow has a brigade under Gen. Steinweher. He has got a pass for his wife to join him. She has not the blessing of children and so she can come. But I would'nt exchange our lot. So you will say by the divine blessing, by next June. God bless you & yours and give you fortitude & much joy.

I wrote to Grace the last letter. Give them much love from papa. They must'nt play too hard. Remember me to Mrs Clark, Lottie & Miss Abby. Has Guy begun to go to school over the River yet?

You will probably see by the papers that I have been permanently assigned to this Corps. This will promote Capt. Howard to a Major & Lieut. Stinson to a Captain. I have a beautiful camp. Did'nt you see it as you came through the gate? I hardly think Uncle Hicks will come back. There are so many <preves> for him that I do not need him. And I dont think he would like here. I shall try to write him soon.

Now very much love & many kisses to my precious wife  
Otis

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1899 4/24/1863    *From:* F.B. Gilman

*To:* Dear General [OO  
Howard]

OOH-1848

Portland

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[346]

Portland Apr 24 '63

Dear General

I take the liberty to write you in behalf of gentlemen of this city upon a matter which they do not wish to make the subject of an official communication. It is their opinion, & they represent the leaders of the Republican party throughout the State, that the copperheads as they are called confidently expect to carry the State in the fall elections, and that loyal men of every name must put forth their most earnest efforts to defeat them. It is a most sacred duty not only to the State but our Country. To insure success & the defeat of rebellion here in our midst, it is the desire of Republicans to advance a Union candidate for Governor upon whom they can unite the whole loyal heart of the State & the votes of every man who loves liberty, his country and the right.

I am assured that the best and most influential men of the Republican party unite in naming yourself as the man who, in their opinion, can best thus unite the people & secure the State. Many in this vicinity are anxious to know what are your views upon this subject and if you would accept the nomination. The expression of your feeling and opinion if you see fit to communicate it to me, would not of course be made public, but would be seen only by a few who have influence and control in political matters & who desire thus to hear from you that they may be able to act understandingly.

I hope you are well & I pray that God will abundantly strengthen you for your responsible duties & bless you spiritually.

Please give my kind regard to Charles.

Your very truly  
F.B. Gilman



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1900 4/25/1863 *From:* P.F. Barstow

*To:* Maj Gen'l Howard  
Comdg 11th Corps

OOH-1849

Head Quarters Army  
Potomac

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[Letterhead]

UNITED STATES MILITARY TELEGRAPH

Received Apl 25 1863

From Head Quarters Army Potomac

To Maj Gen'l Howard

Comdg 11th Corps

The Maj Gen'l Comdg directs me to inform you that your Brigade at Kelly's Ford will want Knapsacks and complete equipments with eight days rations in Knapsacks & Haversacks as heretofore directed in circular as early as Tuesday noon. You can make this arrangement as you may think proper by relieving them or sending their Knapsacks to them. I am also directed to inform you confidentially for you own information and not for publication that your whole Corps will probably move in that direction as early as Monday A.M.

P.F. Barstow

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1901 4/25/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1850

Headquarter Eleventh  
Corps

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[Letterhead]

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,  
Apr 25th 1863

Dearest,

I drew my pay yesterday, and enclose you a check for 300 dollars. You can put Mrs. O.O. Howard on the back and get it cashed at the bank at your convenience.

We are all well but John. John has a bad cold and cough. When he puts his head down it aches. I feel very sorry for John, but he keeps around & is getting better. He is a most excellent & faithful man.

Lieut. Griffith who was with us when I commanded Burns brigade has joined me as A.D.C. He is a fine man, his wife lives in Phila.

This is a beautiful morning. May our Heavenly Father comfort & bless you. Many Kisses to yourself & the Children.

Lovingly  
Otis

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1902 4/27/1863 *From:* Wm. Ballantyne

*To:* Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-1851

Washington

*Source:* Bowdoin

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Washington April 27th 1863

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

Dear Sir

As the President of the Washington City Young Men's Christian Association, it becomes my pleasant duty to inform you that at the Anniversary Meeting held on Wednesday the 22nd inst. you were constituted a Member for Life of the Association by the contribution of the following gentlemen.

Rear Admiral A. H. Foote

Dr. Peter Parker

Wm Ballantyne

Rev. I. G. Butler

The Association has for over a year sustained an active Christian Minister as Missionary to labor among the Teamsters, Quartermaster's Men, Forts, Guards &c who are not otherwise provided with religious services, and his labors have been very acceptable and greatly blessed; it was to sustain this Mission that a contribution though unasked was made at the meeting.

May the rich blessing of Heaven rest upon you, and may God shield your head in the day of battle, and give you victory.

With great respect General  
I am your Obedient Servant  
Wm. Ballantyne

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1903 4/27/1863

*From:* S. Williams  
Asst. Adj. Genl.

*To:* General O.O. Howard  
Comg 11th Corps

OOH-1852

Head Quarters Army of  
the Potomac

*Source:* Bowdoin

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Head Quarters Army of the Potomac  
April 27 1863

General O.O. Howard  
Comg 11th Corps

The commanding General directs me to say that he desires to have you meet him at Morrisville at 2 P.M. tomorrow, Tuesday.

Respectfully  
Yr Obdt Srvt  
S. Williams  
Asst. Adj. Genl.

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1904 4/27/1863

*From:* Wm G LeDuc

*To:* Major Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-1853

*Source:* Bowdoin

Office of Chief Quarter  
Master,  
Eleventh Army Corps,

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[Letterhead]

Office of Chief Quarter Master,  
Eleventh Army Corps,  
11 OC PM Apr 27 1863

General -

The order was given in accordance with your understanding of the order of march. The wagons for forage have gone as follows – not to my personal knowledge but from reports of officers

1 wagon Gen Steinwehrs – 4 are on the way – for 1st Brigade 2nd Brigade 2 Div wagons have gone forward 1 for Hd Qrts 4 for first Brigade – also 3 for Battery 2 Brigade 4 wagons are on the way & will if possible be through to night – the 1 Div following in the rear has had very bad roads to contend with. They were ordered to send the wagons with forage and 3 wagons are therefore on the way will go on to night – have not yet reported – except that the train is stuck at Potomac creek part have crossed and they are crossing as fast as possible.

We have been delayed by the 5th Corps untill dark – and hence the delay of the forage wagons which should have been with their respective commands.

Had not my presence here been imperatively demanded I would have reported in person to night.

Respectfully

Wm G LeDuc

Lt Col & Chf QM 11 Corps

Major Gen. O.O. Howard

[Written on the back of the letter, as an envelope address.]

Major Gen. Howard

Comdg 11th Corps

A mail recd here nothing whatever for head quarters, LeD

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1905 4/28/1863

*From:* Major General  
[Joseph] Hooker

*To:* Major General Howard  
12th Corps

OOH-1854

*Source:* Bowdoin

Hd. Qrs. 1st Cavalry  
Division  
Grove Church

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[319]

Hd. Qrs. 1st Cavalry Division  
Grove Church April 28, [1863]

To Major General Howard  
12th Corps

General -

By direction of Major General Hooker, I send you a regiment of Cavalry (17th Penn. Cav) Colonel Kellogg, Com'dg for duty with your corps. It is intended I believe that they should cover your movement in front & flank as skirmishers & scouts.

I send you, also, six other cavalry men as guides thro' the country to the Rapidan & its fords.

[No signature]

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1906 4/28/1863    *From:* HW Slocum

*To:* Maj Gen O.O. Howard  
Commd 11th Corps

OOH-1855

*Source:* Bowdoin

Headquarters Twelfth  
Corps D'Armee,  
Army of the Potomac

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[Letterhead]

Headquarters Twelfth Corps D'Armee,  
Army of the Potomac  
April 28th 1863.

Maj Gen O.O. Howard  
Commd 11th Corps

General

I would thank you for any information that you can send me from the river – about the crossing – your progress &c, my head quarters are in a small house on the right of the road about a mile from you. My orderly will conduct any one you may wish to send.

HW Slocum [Henry Warner Slocum]  
M.G. Vols

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1907 4/30/1863    *From:* Jno. W. Geary  
   Brig. Gen. Com'dg

*To:* Maj. Gen. Howard  
   Comdg 11th Corps

OOH-1856

On route

*Source:* Bowdoin

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On route  
April 30/63

General

I am directed to station a Reg't of Infantry in the woods, which will be pointed out by an Orderly, to remain until the 12th Corps passes.

My object in notifying you is for your direction in posting another Reg't for your Corps.

Very Respy  
Your Obd't Servant  
Jno. W. Geary  
Brig. Gen. Com'dg

Maj. Gen. Howard  
Comdg 11th Corps

[Written on the back side as an envelope address]

Maj. Gen. Howard  
Comdg 11th Corps