1863

Private

Headqr. 3d Div. 11th Corps
June 3rd 1863.

Maj. Genl. Howard,
Headqr. 11th Corps.

General,

I am informed the "Wash. Star" had an article a few days ago stating, that the German regts of this Corps would be transferred to the fortifications of Washington and that American regts would be sent to fill their places in this Corps; it was added, that this would be done at your or Gen. Hookers request, I do not remember which.

I would most respectfully ask you to tell me, whether you know anything about this matter or whether you have made the request. You would greatly oblige me by giving me this information if you can consistently do so.

Most respectfully your obt. servt

C. Schurz
Maj. Genl.

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Col: Howard,

Dear Sir,

Mr Mahan requested me to write a note to you, just before he went to the city on Monday, to express to you our thanks for what you have done for Freddy, and our regret that he can no longer enjoy the benefit of your instruction — I have been so much occupied since Mr Mahan left that I have omitted this pleasant duty. Please to accept the

united expression of our regard for you and yours and our regrets at your removal from the Post.

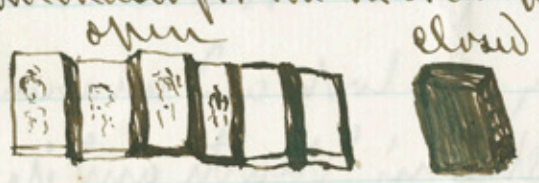
Will you be kind enough at your leisure to let me know our pecuniary indebtedness to you, which is the only part we can now repay, though I am sure Mr Mahan will always be happy to be of any service to you in the future

Yours very truly

M. Mahan

Wednesday June 5th [1863]

for the black as the battle commenced. I have from Capt Dessami's horse a fine handy little boy, more too big for Guy or Lucie to ride. I bought him. So I own the Black & this Pony now. Charles has two. I forgot to tell you I had a family photograph case purchased for me in New York. I can carry it nicely in my pocket



Guy's & Lucie's photographs fitted in well to your photograph. I lack Jamie & Johnny. I hope Jamie will get some his photographs taken the first opportunity to send to Julia. He must look as sober as

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

Near Brooks's Stn. Va.,

1863.

Dearest.

We have moved head Quarters to a new place where we have some 33 hours and no dust. Some 1½ of a mile from the old place. I have had quite a severe attack of dysentery. One day I lay by entirely, that was day before yesterday, but yesterday I rode to Hd. Qrs. of Gen Hooker and felt pretty well all day - and I am quite well this morning. Yesterday there was some cannonading near Fredericksburg, a

sort of reconnaissance in force on our part. with an attempt to lay a bridge. Some brigades of the enemy were reported moving off. but I understand they soon reappeared. This morning all seems to be quiet. I hope you are still on the gain. Mom next to the last letter said you feared to go down stairs lest you should not get back. In the last you were going down to your meals and were talking about that fearful but essential time of house-cleaning. I hope you did not have to work at it yourself but were wise enough to hire somebody who could see that

Sperlin works & the dirt in the corners.

I have lost my poor horse Lehanty - He grew sicker & sicker with the distemper. Mr Donald took good care of him tried him out to graze, but it was of no use. He had served his country long enough and he died. Major Whittlesey says Mr Donald came with a very sad look and announced the fact of "Lehanty's" death and it startled him at first; but he soon learned that it was the horse. He has been a nice, beautiful active & faithful friend to me. He was well at the last battle, but I had just written him & changed

Sunday Nov 26th - Otis

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

Va., June 9th 1863.

Dear Sister Lizzie

Otis has gone out to inspect the camps of one of his Divns and said to me as he was leaving that he had intended to write you this morning and asked me to do so.

It is a delightfully cool and refreshing summer morning. Otis has not been very well but is much im-

troops of the army. One Regt from this Corps 33d Mass - Capt. Stinson is with him. They anticipated meeting Stewart & perhaps they have caught him - such is the indication of the firing. Capt Cross of Amos Class (Engineers) was killed at Fredricksburg last Friday night at the Commonwealth. One Div of 6th Corps is now across but it is I think only a Reconnoissance.

Love to Guy - a school-boy now I suppose & to dear little Grace & Jennie & overwhelming amount of kisses for the littlest one

Affectionately
C. H. Howard

proved — in fact says he is well now. My own health is good.

We have the most lovely spot for the ps. we have ever had I believe. Moved up here last week — It is about 1/4 mile from the old place.

I had invited Rawlins to come out and see us and yesterday got answer from him that he would come next week or week after.

So if you wish to send anything to this you will probably have the opportunity.

Gen. Ames has been sent up river with a Brigade of Infantry & some Artillery in conjunction with a Cavalry force and this moment I hear very distant firing. He went away day before yesterday & has under him the 2nd

with him. Annie & the 33d. We shall look for him back by tomorrow night. How does he like his school. Is he chubby cosy and full? He must tell me who is his teacher, how he likes his books - what he studies. Does he learn something new every day? I want to learn more about Lucie. I am afraid she may forget she is papa's daughter. I think seeing to suit much Rowland very much. He must be a very enterprising boy. Does he speak slowly? But the baby. I cannot imagine how he looks. Does he sleep much of the time? Mrs Lee & Percy stand with us back night. Percy's resignation has not yet been accepted, neither has that of Capt. Whittlesey. Percy is acting Adj. Gen. for his

give my kind regards to all my friends in Columbus. Tell Williams I want to see Mr Dean. Write me a long letter. I want to know the position of affairs in your town. Give my love to your mother and children. Your Brother

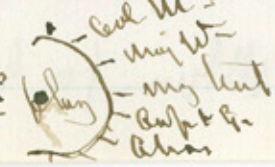
Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

Near Brooke's Stn. Va.,

May June 10th 1863.

My dear Brother - I received a good letter from you in which you compare the unsettled condition of your house to my reputation. I hope you have not worked at that business yourself. Mrs Goodwin writes me that Maria is very poorly, weak, debilitated and discouraged about herself. She will come to stay for St. Paul Minnesota last Friday. Mrs Merrick Sen. went to take the cavalry and nurse and they might stay some months if the climate proves to agree with Maria. Lieut Underwood commands the 33d Mass Regiment. Steinwehr's Division. A second

expedition was organized, Gen. Ames commanding, to proceed up river and attack or intercept one of Stuart's Raids. Col Underwood's wife had just arrived in camp with his little girl. I chose his regiment as the one best fitted for the work to be done. Mrs Underwood is an intimate friend of Mrs Lizzie Lee. They met here at my camp yesterday. Gen. Stan. Adams, Col. Wm Smith commdg. Brigade, Lieut Thompson and his wife & Perry took tea with us last night and spent a pleasant evening. We had the band of the 33d Mass which did not go with the Regiment. An engagement is now in progress between our cavalry & that of Gen. Stuart near Culpepper. Gen. Stuart with his force must be there. I do hope this will be a success worth the mention. I understand Stuart was completely surprised just as he was getting ready to go on some expedition to the North. Particulars of the engagement have not come to hand yet. One Division of Gen Sedgwick's Corps is still over the river below Fredericksburg. The bridge was built and this force moved to find out how much force of the enemy was there. Our own guns cover these troops & they can stay as long as they please. Our new camp is very beautiful, laid out in a large semi-circle.



Mary Stimson has gone

Rockland Jan 12th 1863

My Dear Sir

My object in this is to ask you if you would not consent to have your name used as a candidate for Gov I am confident under the call you would be a more acceptable candidate than any we could get and it is important that we carry this State by a good round majority your name was frequently mentioned last winter at "Augusta" and always with favour and we hoped the "war" would be in such progress that you could be spared from the field without detriment to the service we are willing to leave the whole matter to your judgment but I think I am safe in assuring you that your name would add much to the strength of our State Ticket

I am Your Very Truly

R. A. Farwell

Maj Gen O. O. Howard
Washington

Prof. W. Cooper June 17th
Cedar Creek
New Lexington] 1863

Dearest.

The weather has been very hot & dry - I've been marched as follows - 12 miles - 19, 18, rested two days then marched 17. I was a little pressed at Centreville but am here quite safely. Mr Cooper has marched in a very easy style & all my orders are obeyed with great promptness. I hope you are well & that the weather is cooler with you for I know how much the heat affects you - I long to see the baby very much - Has Mother been to get acquainted? I suppose Reach does very well but spends much time in tending him. I think every day of Lizzie rejoicing with Pappy dear little darling & I try to pray for them & I know Papa is thoughtful of us home

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[Thursday morning 14th] I am packing quite
well this morning. Though it is very hot. almost
too hot for comfort. I am waiting
for Charles Lem. Mr. Hy. are 30 miles away
just now. I don't know when they can reach
you. Charlie is quite well and so is baby
Stinson and little Lu, as Chas. has just at
this time gone to his Regiment leaving Mrs
Capt. Stinson to take care of Mrs. Meade.
I have a new officer on my staff =
Capt Hall additional A.D.C. formerly
John P. Hale's private Secretary. A
very fine young man. He has been sick
and I am afraid he will not stand the
fatigue. Love to all of my people
and as ever Most blessy on

Lovingly

Otis

Leeds. June 17th 1853

Dear Lizzie

It strikes me we might be a little more sisterly in the way of corresponding — and yet, I know it takes a good deal of time to write letters, and you especially have very little to spare, with your little family, & your letters to Otis — For my own part, I dont know but it is as much laziness, as anything else, that keeps me from writing, for I have been intending to send you my love & congratulations, ever since the dear little baby came. But you have them now, & will you please kiss the little fellow for his Auntie — I want very much to see him — I wish it wasn't such a journey, between Augusta & Farmington — & such an almost-

boy from the 17th — — Sir is nicely, I hear. Mother & I are going to ride up to see it tomorrow —

Mother seems pretty well — has a good girl — Col. Gilmore has a very sore finger, which seems as much like a felon as anything, but he doesn't call it a felon — He has suffered with it, for three weeks, & it is not much, if any better. Mother sends love to you & the children — She has been intending to write, but has been unusually busy this spring —

Sadie grows fast, & is very well — I should like to see Jamie — Rowland told me he talked very plain.

Good bye — Love to all the children, & kisses from Auntie

Ella —

impossible journey with little children - I do wish you could come up, & bring all four of them, this summer. Is it quite out of the question? I should so like to have you. I came down here yesterday - Sadie & I came in the cars - & Mary Frances Lothrop who travels with me, at present - & Mary Sprague, an old friend of mine who is making me a visit - came with me here. We are all going back Friday - This "work room" where I am writing, always reminds me of you - The first time I ever really got acquainted with you, you were occupying this room - How many changes there have been, since then! Rowland wanted very much to go to Augusta, to see you, before he went to Washington, but he couldn't have Farmington, to do so. It is more difficult, than one would suppose, to get away from one's Parish - It is as much like leaving a great Baby, as any thing - The Child always has to be "put to rights" again, when the Parent returns. I don't know how the late movements of the Army will affect Rowland, I am sure. He started Monday morning, in company with Mr. Adams of New Sharon, who goes out as a delegate, of the Christian Commission.

Shall you be able to go to Commencement this year? I suppose Willie will want as many of his friends there as can go. I expect to go home about that time, & I wish you could come to Bath, & we could go to Brunswick, as often, or as seldom as we chose. And the baby would be safe, at my father's, while you were away. You had better do so, if you can. I wonder if you have heard of the new cousin - Laura has a little

Head Quarters 11th Corps #
New Hope Church
June 19th (Friday) 1863

Dearest.

I have time to write you a line - We are all well & Gen. Hooker says waiting till the enemy developes his intentions. Charles & Harry went on perilous rides but came back all safe - Send love from Papa to the children & write a little to a dear wife. God bless us all. Lovingly

Otis

June 22 1863

The same place
as last letter

Dearest, all well. I have
sent for Rowland to Washington
would you do so too. Lost
Miss you all - A small
Cavalry engagement &
mails off yesterday -
Many kisses & love to
come to the Children
& you sent to Oly

Hd Qrs 1st Corps

Camp Cricks

June 24th 1863

Dear Mac

Rutland arrived safely in 45 minutes ride yesterday & some little exposure to Bristoe wagons. All well. I have got two good letters from you in this camp. I have just written a letter to Mr Fairbanks of Rutland declining the honor of a nomination for Governor ~~I think stately~~ regretting it — Nevertheless you old Mac

love to the children. Don't
not forget them - Mind
must go now - Will
try to give you a better
letter next time - Would
like to talk - Write
Bloom - Affectionately
or Merritt Your husband
Otis

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

Middletown Md June. 26. 1863.

Dear Sister Lizzie

I came to camp at Goose Creek - 6 miles from Leesburg on Tues: with the 11th Corps Mail Carrier - The next day - I "marched" with the Corps to Edwards Ferry. 6. miles - & the next, to Point of Rocks & turning at that point to Jefferson - 8 miles from the Potomac where we spent the night in a house - The march was a hard one of 28. & 30. miles in a day - today we have only moved 6. miles up this beautiful & fruitful Valley to this lovely little town - There is no immediate prospect of a battle - the Enemy being two

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days march ahead of us towards Penn: Otis seems quite well, but works hard almost every moment & gets pretty tired every night & sometimes is awakened often during the night with Orders = Tonight he is just by my side in bed & John is winding his watch = We are at a farm house ½ a mile out of town = Charley has gone to sleep in a tent outside & don't seem very well tonight but he is very tired = How I pity the poor men on these marches = I hope my stay in Washington did some good as I labored in the Camps & Hospitals for the Cause = Otis received a letter from you tonight = He has no moment to write for the last few days = I am glad Prof. Whittlesey went to see you & wish he was back here with Otis = A personal friend of high moral character is a great blessing to one in his position = I think I will be home before the 2d Sab in July & will try to come by way of Augusta & tell you what I have with time to write = We have prayed together & Otis is now asleep - There is no order yet for any more =

Your aff. Brother
Rowland

Give Guy a great deal of love & tell Grace she is getting too old = Tell Jennie he must save the novel box all. Ief & baby must have a kiss from all of us =

but quite a number of blanketts. The mountain border has plenty of forests. I wish you could get a view of this charming Valley. How is Amy? likes his school? learning something new everyday? How does Lucie get on. I would so like very much to come to see you all and think I shall be allowed to do so before long. I hope you will be able to have a good opinion of the 11th corps if we are engaged again. It certainly marches well. One day we made more than 23 miles. Almost all the officers like to please me & cooperate with alacrity. I do not yet quite despair of my country. The rebels are stirring up Pennsylvania & I hope the fever will last. I am sorry Mrs Black is sick. Give much love to all and accept a little for yourself. Lovingly yours

Chas Schurz

Altis

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

New Middletown

Va, June 27 1863.

Dear Ist,

I have received another good long letter from you written just after Mr & Mrs Whittlesey's visit. I am glad they came to see you. I got a letter from Major Whittlesey at the same time. He said that you were able to go down Street. You must have your head cracked as you tell me bravely to wear to church. I am afraid you are working too hard or doing too much. Shopping you know is very dangerous. We are working along up towards you. The rebels are again between us and home. Rowland has sent you a letter I don't know what he wrote, but I presume he told you it was further hard to keep up our horse back over fields

across ditches. I don't find the fatigue of commanding a corps any less than that in commanding a division. I sometimes get tired as you used to at home when you worked too hard, but I call myself quite well. We are staying luxuriously here in Maryland. I have a nice room in a house and a sufficient table is set for me and all my staff. The lady has a brigade of daughters (in number the eldest about ten yrs & the youngest about two). I have some many irons in the fire I cannot stop to chat with them — I wish I could. I fear I should not be a very cheerful patient or husband if my little family came up — I am thinking our troubles will be brought to a crisis before long — and it God wills I may be home before long also. Rowland says Jamie sows the wind by a good deal. I am chuckling his nose is not out of joint. Mamma must kiss him on both cheeks and ask him to name the baby. They hesitate to think the baby has yet no name. What shall we call him? I must let you give him a name. A couple of young ladies made us a corps flag today I presented it:

The trefoil is pink and the flag is blue. Blue flag was silk and it got pretty away till there was scarcely anything left. I wrote a note of thanks & the young man came up to separate these young ladies & to take the note. We were in this lovely valley before just before the battle of South Mountain & Antietam. It is like an immense basin with a bottom broken out of regular shape & so fertile that although every field is covered with crops — no woods