

... I have loved & loved
... I can bear
... the Dr. Childs paper been
... the ... or many
... was ought to tell you
... but it is very late and
... am very busy & sleep
... night my dear
... my heart & name
... love to yours
... your brother Charles
... for yourself & mine
... I should
... I wish had
... ever your love
... I should
... 1st
... I have heard from you
... to ... in April

... brought a little
... Clara met my eye. and on opening the box - I
found it contained, an exquisite little gold chain, with
a locket attached - within which were two dear faces
which I love dearly to see together. Clara immediately
exclaimed. "Mine own Papa and mine God-father"
Now I can attribute this kind token to no other
hand, than that of your own Brave Husband,
whose love for my dear Husband and his little
God-daughter prompted him to send his own
face to her, who shall daily learn to love
and appreciate one whom we all, as well as
our Country value most truly. Clara is a dear
little creature, full of life, impulse &
gushing love for every one, she wins all hearts,
but such temperaments as hers need very
careful watchful rearing - and I am
always so truly thankful that God's
God-Father

her will help me - I commenced writing in time
for to-days mail. but with thousands of interruptions
it is now two o'clock and I am just trying to commence
again - Mother returned to us to night after having been
absent from us for ten days. we have missed her sadly
but she seems much benefitted by her trip, and I
am very thankful she is once more safely at home
again - Father has been at the sea shore for several
weeks & has returned to us looking & seeming very
much better and stronger. Did you get your picture
of Father? We cannot get any of those first best
pictures. But we have some now though not
nearly so good, and I will send you one if you
wish it - Sister Clara has been off for six weeks
at Rockaway, the White Mountains, Lake George
Saratoga two weeks, and Catskill - with Mr.
Pinnington's parents, who are devoted to Sister
Clara. They have been spending this week at
Loggens - while her sisters are with us - Clara
is less anxious than she was, heard regularly from
Alex. who is spoken of very well indeed by
all his brother officers - Brother Johnnie is in New
York with the light Infantry (regulars) at Governors
Island - Charrie - is much as you saw her last,
gentle & very sweet looking - My little ones are
well - bright & happy & the greatest possible
comfort to me - in fact to all of us in both houses
I am perfectly well & strong - Clara has the
pony which I ride almost daily - &
to me - No a

expecting to have the pleasure of having dear
Papa & Mama Guler with us very soon on their way
to Vermont. I regret very much that you could
not have been with Gen^l Howard in Phil^a. I long
to see you again - & live in the hope that some
day we may be near to each other. Mr. Brent
has been ordered to Fort Hamilton - Maggie is delighted
they intend going to housekeeping there. I went out
to Newburg a week ago, to see poor Mrs. Williams
who had just returned from Detroit, where her
little darling baby boy, was taken away after only
a few weeks illness - she left him to sleep upon the
bosom of his brave Father - who had never ^{seen} this little
one. She is gentle, quiet, resigned & truly Christian
like. I think her very lovely in character. Mrs
Chester leaves us tomorrow. She intends staying
in Newburg until after a frost, then returning to
Washington - Mrs. Wendall with her baby are boarding
at Mr. Howard's at Buttermilk, until she knows
when she can fetch her boat for the winter - how
sad for her to have no home, no relatives to be
with. The Misses are all well - Robert & his wife
have been staying here - Gen^l & Mrs. Seymour have
been at home the Gen^l was wounded in his foot
black is to be married in a week or so. I see
in I see several times a day. Charles Bartlett
at home, a very shadow of himself his little
wife is with him, she looks a perfect child - the
child has lost her little baby, a fine one
Mr. L. is at home

other day - he is stationed at Louisville and told
me they had lost their eldest child but have two
others - Mrs Andy Nett spent last Saturday with us -
Telford Howard that Mr Dr Cook now Capt has
become a member of the church - & has married
a lovely little christian lady who has transformed
him - The Bernds all seem well - Miss Blanche
is gone to stay with Minnie - Mrs Reed they say
will be married to Smith (I said I think is his
name) in the Spring - Mrs Henry & her daughters
were here a week or so ago - They have opened a
School in Reading Pennsylvania where Mr Terrell is
buried - Guy is doing finely in Charleston Harbor
There are few families here whom you would
know beside the Professor's families everything seems
so changed to me - Do write to me my dear
friend - and tell me all about yourself and all
about the dear little ones, giving them each a kiss
for me - and please send me Capt Howard's
address I often see little bits about the good
he is doing - How proud of and thankful for
such a husband you must be - and that God
may spare you to each other and for your
little ones is my precious prayer - All at
home here send you dearest love - The Sunday
School has been closed for a month - so has
the chapel for repairs - Mother has two little
to boys whom she teaches every Sunday
as my friends you will think I have a

with the doll I sent her and shot with some
good shoes with brass toes. Does Jamie
miss papa as a play fellow? The dear little
fellow. his papa would like to have the
privilege of playing with him & talking
with him every day: and it would be
very pleasant to play with the baby,
who is given to pulling whiskers. Home
is very sweet, very inviting and always
longed for, I trust it is not very far off
for many a weary & waiting heart.
Yet we will cheerfully endure all
this for the blessings that shall follow.
The weather is again warm. The ground
frozen. We have a fire spread over
our camp table and you can tell ^{it} being

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

Sept 4 Ball's Bluff Va 1868.

Dearest,

I wonder how you are &
where you are this morning. I felt
quite homesick for a day or two,
but begin to get accustomed to the
old life. I found my Adj. Gen. Lt. Col.
Missrubby away on a sick leave. Lt.
Ballou is now gone. I went to Ad. Gen.
yesterday saw Gen. Meade, Williams &
Humphreys. All looking well. Gen. Williams
says, I told them at home he might
have a horse as well as set and
the nurse has been able to get away

a moment. He says he will leave
to write in order to explain away
my impression. He is a hard working
man and perhaps has more to
do than any other officer and
undoubtedly here. Meade does not
wish to spare him. Gen. Meade had
made the rule that only one Corps Command
should be absent at the same time. He
was a little surprised that the Secretary
of War granted me an extension without
consulting him, this I think was the
ground of his recall. He was very cordial
and friendly, showed me his new sword,
with its two elegant scabbards. You
never saw anything richer. Carrots.

diamonds, gold in profusion. The
Gen. initials G.H.M. The coat of arms of
the State of Penn. in one place, and
the Eagle with 'E. Pluribus Unum' in
another. The Gen. says it is too
rich, a waste, but he prizes it highly.
I feel glad I did not speak any more
in Maine. I said what I believed and
that is enough. I will enclose you a piece
from the Argus which will amuse you.
How is the cough and how is the baby? Tell
Guy I found the pony in good condition -
a little crop with his ears & prisky when
I got on. I shall keep sending to Genl
till I hear from you. Tell Maria I
found little Lottie Cuttlet very happy.

write papa a good letter.
Uncle Charles has been in my
tent since I began to write: he
is very well. He went with Capt.
Stinson to inspect the camps of
some regiments of this corps. It
has been a very warm day today.
at midday the heat was oppressive.
but now it is comfortable and the
Katy dids are singing their never-ending
songs in the trees: the tree toads Tenickets
mingle their voices - my dear Jamie
& the baby asleep. ^{are} Maamma Papa
awake & thinking? Good night all.
Most lovingly
Your father
O. M. Brown

Headquarters Eleventh Corps.

Sept. 7th

1863.

Near Centerville Sta.

My dear Mary
Papa begins to
wonder why he does not get a
letter from Maamma. Is Maamma
sick so that she cannot write? Is
her cough bad? Are any of the
children ill? How is that sweet little
baby who talked in his own way &
pulled his father's whiskers? How
is Jamie with his keen black eyes &
his quiet fun? How is sister Grace,
with her loving heart? And how
is our Manly boy Guy? Did you

have a happy time at Uncle Rowland's? And now is Pappa's Mother, who used to have him, not many years ago as her little boy? Has Grandpa's fringe got well? I want to know all these things and whatever else you can tell me about your visit. Yesterday we had the 33rd Massachusetts band come down from Bristol's station and play for us at an evening service. I didn't understand the sermon much better than you & have understood Mr McKenzie's sermon when you don't pay attention. For

the minister preached in the German language and Papa understood only a few words. But one prayer was in English and the band played sweet hymns. This band staid here all this day (Monday) and have been playing delightfully all the evening. Little Lottie Burtlett has been quite happy. She is the principal reminder of our little household at home. I think of you all every day and try to ask God to bless, direct & preserve you all. Love much love from Papa to everyone of the family &

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

Sept 8th

1863.

Dear Mother,

I get more and more frightened every day. I think you must be still visiting and cannot write. I think you must be sick and cannot. I remember that naughty cough and am afraid it has holden on. I did not write you at Farmington for you intended to go to Leeds so shortly. I sent my first letter then - one from Washington with a check of two or three since I returned. Day before yesterday I wrote my letter & directed it to Augusta. The days are now quite warm and considerably

monotonous. I have been reading
Fanny Kemble's account of her
life as Mrs Bevan Butler on
a Georgia plantation: for a or two
I have stuck pretty closely to the
book. This morning by the
help of Major Howard I made
out the rest of my report. Gen.
Meade required a report of the
whole campaign after he took
command until he arrived in his
present camp. I am now glad
it is made. Did I tell you that
after I had returned from reviewing
some of my troops at ^{Manassas} ~~Warrenton~~
junction last Saturday, who should

I find there but few Men, but
Humphreys dep. of Staff and Genl.
Mensonton. The latter is one
of my old friends in Florida
He was then the handsome Adjt.
General of General Harvey. He
now is the brains of that
General. You notice his name
doubtless as commanding the Cavalry
corps of this Army. Gen. Meade
took dinner with me under
our fly, and ^{had} admired the ability
of our ~~cook~~ in making strange
dishes ^{upon} an admirable table.
Our cook's ability of the German
cuisine exceeds anything you find

in cities. We have everything duck
chicken, pies, cakes, &c. Don't
worry us on account of the poverty
of our diet. We had a little
episode yesterday to relieve the
general monotony. ^{artillery} ~~break~~ firing
was heard about 11 a.m. ~~Blush~~
& I mounted and rode to
Wameton junction, 3 miles
and found at the telegraph
office that it was only artillery
practice. It does not do to get
excited here till you are sure.
On Friday last I made a very
pleasant trip to Greenwicks.
I had a enjoyment there. I the

been in the principal residence.
How glad he was to see me -
had often heard of me - and
indeed his grounds & buildings
are as splendid as J. B. Brown's
and his hospitality without
 stint. He feasted me very
sumptuously. In a solemn manner he
gave a blessing at the table and
I afterwards heard Mrs. Catlett speak
of his benevolence. His character
has much impressed me. He
is an Englishman - "British Property" is
ported on his gate posts. He
has even large stacks of good
hay, cutwheat and beehives

filled with money in this country
of war & theft. His wife is a
Virginia lady, rather large
rather masculine, evidently rebel
in sympathy. Our W. Br. are
still at W. Br. No rain has
yet fallen since my return &
if you have been astonished at
our ease of weed, weed in the
spring you would be woe
at the cry of dust, dust. The
ground is parched by the continued
heat & drought. I purpose to take
ride to W. Br. tomorrow. Good night
darling - I am almost homesick, much
love to the children. Paper dark people
the blues - God bless you all - ^{Love} ~~dis~~

the sabbath day to keep it holy." or. hinc
will learn that there are two kinds
of work that may be done - one - where
it is necessary, as to eat your breakfast
feed your pig or milk your cow -
and the other, where you can be
merciful, as to help the sick, or relieve
pain. Our Saviour allowed his friends
to pluck the ears of corn & eat when they
were hungry. He told others, that is
was right to pull out an ox or ass which
had fallen into a pit on the Sabbath day.
You read about it in 14th Chapter of St. Luke.
Give much love to mamma & grandpa. I am
glad to hear they are so well. Poor Jamie ^{is} not
quite well. Pray for your papa - and be
every good little girl. - Very affectionately
Ellen Wood

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

September 12th 1863.

much thanks
I am
well
and
love
to
you
all
I
love
you
all
I
love
you
all
I
love
you
all

Dear little daughter
I wrote you
a few days ago and now think it
is your turn to have a letter. When
I began to write I remembered
that Mamma said in her last
letter that Grace wanted to stay
a few days with Grandmother; so I must
write to you at Leeds. Papa has
changed his head quarters from the pleasant
grove at the Battell's house into the
open fields on the same farm. Now
we are encamped in a circle as
you will see by the drawing.

which I enclose. Little Lottie
Gottett who looks something like
yourself, gave me a good hearty
welcome when I returned and show-
ed me her nice new doll that
she knew I sent her from
Washington. One time she un-
derstood somebody to say I had
been killed and she cried about
it very heartily. How is Grandma?
Did you ever think that I was
once Grandma's little boy? It does
not seem many years ago, when
I used to drive up the cows, rake
the hay & help husk the corn.
Perhaps you may be helping

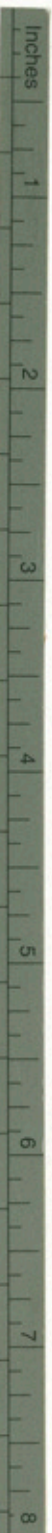
Grandpa pick up apples or be doing
something. Grandma never had any
little kids. Her children were always
noisy bothersome little boys. She
must be much pleased to have you
to chat with and has, I have no
doubt, told you many things about
your papa and uncles, Rowland & Charles.
Some troops went out from this
Army early this morning to
try and see what the rebel General
Lee is doing. This is called making a
reconnaissance. I have heard firing all
day with cannon. I am sorry this work
had to be done today, for it is Sunday.
For the commandment is, "remember

LEEDS. SEP. 12. 1863

MY DEAR MAMA I HOPE YOU ARE VERY
WELL. I AM GETTING ALONG NICELY.
HOW IS THE BABY. I AM HAVING A NICE
TIME BUT SOME TIMES I WISH THE
BABY WAS HERE. I NOW EAT BUT THREE
APPLES A DAY. THIS MORNING IS THE
SABBATH, ~~YESTERDAY~~ WENT TO MIBES
LOTHROPS FRIDAY. HOW IS JAMIE IS HE
PRETTY WELL. HOW ARE YOU AND
GUY, AND LOTTY GETTING ALONG. HOW DOES THE
BABY GOO DOES HE GOO THE WAY HE DID
HERE. GRAN-MA WENT TO METTING TO-
DAY AND I ST AID AT HOME WITH
GRANDPA. THE PARCADE CAME SATURDAY,
BUT HE ~~WAS~~ NOT COME YET TO-
DAY IS SATUR-DAY MONDAY. IT IS
IN THE MORN-ING NOW. I ST AID IN
BED

IN THE MORN-ING NOW. I STAY IN
DAY IS AFTER-DAY MONDAY. IT IS
OUT HERE ~~IT~~ NOT COME YET TO
GRANDMA THE PACKAGE COME SATURDAY
DAY AND I STAY AT HOME WITH
HERE. GRANDMA WE WENT TO METTING TO
BABY GOD BLESS HE GOO THE WAY HE DID
GIRL AND LITTLE GETTING ALONG. HOW DOES THE
PRETTY WELL. HOW ARE YOU AND
LUTHERS FRIDAY HOW IS GAMIE IS HE
SABATH. ~~WE WERE~~ MORN-ING IS THE
BABY WAS HERE. I NOW EAT BUT THREE
TIME BUT SOME TIMES I WISH THE
HOW IS THE BABY. I AM HAVING A NICE
WELL. I AM GETTING ALONG NICE
MY DEAR MAMA, I HOPE YOU ARE VERY

J. E. O'S. SERIES 1883



Leds Sept 18. 1863.

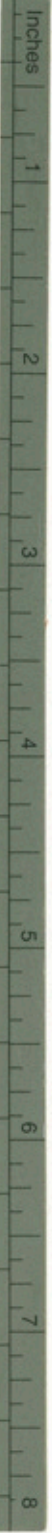
My dear daughter

You cannot tell how very glad I was to hear from you, and that you reached your home so favorably, & am still feeling badly about Ginnie, what does Doct Briggs say about him, & hope he is much better ere this, but still I have my fears that is not the case, hope Guy and baby are well, how is your cough do take care of yourself, Gracia was delighted with her letter and seems to enjoy herself wonderfully she stays with me more since you went away Mrs Lottrop invited Mrs Gilmore and I to tea and I took Gracia with me, I told her she might select a dress to suit herself to wear, and she chose her green and white plaid and such liked it she looked very sweet and pretty and was very lady like, all the time, her pleasant face is a real comfort

I found a letter at the P. O. from Nellie
on my return home after I left you, written
Monday morning saying if we wished
him to return home to vote we might
send for him, but unless we had written
at the office that night and left it to
go the next morning, it could not have
reached him in time for him to come
home Saturday I am really sorry.
I thought him more patriotic than he
actually proves to be he wrote from
North Easton and is now probably
at Westboro Grace has been printing
a letter to you she will do some more
to it in the morning, the package
came safely to Mr. Lathrop's

Mr. Gilmore came away without
it last evening Grace was quite
disappointed when he told her of it
I attended the quarterly Methodist
meeting on the ridge today Grace
did not come to go, and I was
satisfied to have her stay with
her grandpa there is always such a

meeting
would it for



Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

Sept 11th

1863.

Antietam Station

Dear Sir,

I received your bundle of letters with two most welcome ones from yourself. I had already begun one to Isaac I intended to send it to Leeds as you said in the letter from Leeds that you would probably have been there for awhile. I am sorry to hear that our little family is so small, but am in hopes that you & Fr. Briggs by the divine blessing will soon be here. With my affectionate regards
your obedient servant
J. G. [Signature]

quite a large body of our Cavalry
supported by the ~~regt~~ Corps.

They found only a small force
in front and pushed on as far
as the Hospital. Yesterday taking
a few prisoners & three ^{heavy} guns.

Some change will be likely to
take place in our position before
this reaches you. We don't know
yet where Lee has gone. Gen. Meade
may be this time. Much love
to my family & the baby - &
not a little to you yourself - Mrs
Wade wrote a letter much like her
self. She seems to have liked
little John's present. "Papa

and John must soon come
again before long. John takes
a great deal of pleasure in
bringing me good letters. He
says, "It is not a good one General"
frequently. The other day, he
came with one to my tent &
said, he believed it was a
good one but was 'nt very
sure. The envelope was from
Seb and was 'nt ~~very~~ white.
May God bless & keep you
all.

Lovingly

Atis

Thanks & Harry both
well

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

Battletts Station Sept. 18. 1863.

Dear Sir,
I hope you
will be
able to
write to
me soon
I am
very
truly
yours
Wm. L. Garrison

I received a letter from you yesterday, mailed Monday morning. "Janie was better but very weak and low". I immediately telegraphed you "how is Janie?" but do not get an answer. I do hope God will spare us. but when I think of my sins I do not feel that He can. You did right in bringing him home. please don't think of blaming yourself for want of care. "Whom He loveth He chasteneth and scourgeth every son that He receiveth": He is indeed a beautiful boy. graceful, noble. May we not bring him up to love and be loved to do good! Our own little links

8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
Inches

darling are yet all on the earth. Oh, how many beloved boys, this year, God has called away. It rains very hard, it pours, and a very sad, sad thing is to be done today. A poor German soldier is to be shot this afternoon in my command. He deserted in a passion; was a good soldier but he deserted was caught, courtmartialled and sentenced to be shot. After it was settled, their calls came for pardon or mitigation. I recommended that he be pardoned on account of past good conduct, present repentance & promises of future good behaviour, but General Meade decided that he must die and I think the General is right. This poor misguided man must suffer, but

Thousands will probably be saved by it, still
it is very sad. He has a wife and four chil-
dren at home. His wife was a widow
with three and he married her and
has had one child. I sent for a German
priest to Alexandria. He seems an excellent
man, came and breakfasted with me this
morning. He wanted to have the man
saved. He has gone to him again to say that
there is no hope. I wonder why you do not
reply to my dispatch - it is so short: he is well,
he is better. Where are you today. You & the
baby and poor little Jamie in "Mamma's
room": I do feel cheerful and hopeful but
as you must sometimes, in suspense. Charles has
just come in to read over some letters that a

a lady of this country wishes to send
word. These ladies cannot put many secrets
in their letters. I should not like to write
that way, should you? One of our
officers was shot at from the bushes, just
outside of our outposts or rather not
far from Greenwich. We had all the citizens
in that vicinity apprehended and brought
in. Our old gentleman and his daughter (the
Marstella's) were among them. I released them
all as there was no proof against them, but
I hope I frightened them sufficiently, so that
they will exert themselves to prevent such
unpleasant occurrences. I have written
home, God bless you all and save us
from sorrow if it be his holy will
Your loving husband - Otis

22 m. Friday

have got no answer yet to my message to you,
but I find there is no communication with
Washington on account of the storm. probably telegraph
poles have blown down. It has now cleared
off and the weather is fair indeed.

A letter was received from mother today
and I will copy what she says about you
and Jamie. "Lizzie was happy here and
spoke of what a relief it was to be so quiet...
but after Jamie's lost his health she was
anxious to go home. She went two days sooner
than we anticipated. Dr. Spring said it would
not hurt him to go. As Jamie asked a number
of times to go to Jas home. I went with
her to Brunswick... Grace seems happy,
was delighted to have a whole letter of her own

printed, from her mother." She says near
the close of her letter: "I am afraid Lizzie
will wear herself out if Jamie should
remain sick long." I have quoted this
because I thought you feared mother would
blame you for taking Jamie home from what
you said in your letter. I am not depressed &
feel that all will be well. Will my papa
think much about him, hopes he enjoys
his school. Kiss the baby & Jamie for
papa and may our precious
Saviour be very nigh you till
we meet again. I am guarding the
communications with my reduced corps.
I wasn't quite reconciled but I know
this is right. Lovingly - Otis.

truth - "The truth as it is in Jesus" - &
Sometimes feel encouraged by their
interest, & by an occasional conversion.
I visit them considerable, I endeavor to
talk with them personally; & tho' I
find it a laborious life, it is yet
I hope a useful life, & one in wh. I
take a deal of comfort. - A few of my
'spare hours' (if they are very few I assure
you) I occupy with writing for some of
our religious quarterly; & this is a sort of
labor for wh. I have quite a fancy. -

I am married - to the eldest daughter of
S. P. Benson of Winthrop - M. C. for Kennebec 1852-56 -
& we have 3 little children - Julia 3 1/2 years old -
& Benson, W. We are a happy family - & all the
more so the Mr. B. lives with us (has an office in Boston)
- & Lillie, his youngest & only surviving daughter. -

So much for my history. - If I did have got
anything like a comment fr. my family or my parish - I
should have been able to add to it a chapter of the war -
for I have longed to be there, personally engaged -
either with Bible or sword. -

I have often recalled the pleasant hours we spent together
in the north end of Maine Hall - the battles we used to fight with
Jack Bullfinch & Sam Buck on the old green lounge - the pages of
Calculus we used to puzzle over - & the walks we used to take
among the "whispering pines". Life did not look so sober to us
as it does now - but doubtless God was preparing us then for the fields
we are working in now. May we both be enabled to accomplish
much for Him. - We have rejoiced at every mention of yr.

gallantly in action. It
did my heart good to
find so much of the
credit of the affair at
Falmouth ascribed to you.
I talked with many comrades
in the battle - & they all
spoke in the highest terms
of yr. skill. I told
Jack Chamberlain whom
I met in Brunswick
at Commencement
What a glorious
the so many Christian
men are in our army
& navy. I told you
my dear Howard I
help you to help
himself to "helping" is
the prayer of yr. old
& friend
John S. Sewall
if you ever spare a leisure moment I should be greatly pleased to hear from you.

Will you
recognise my handwriting? I
have taken out paper many a
time to write you - since you
went out in command of the
3^d Maine - but have as often
concluded th. you already had
so much correspondence - &
probably too much official
business to attend to besides -
th. it wd. be really more friendly
to let you alone. But I met
Mr. Brother Rowland at Commencement
last August - & he assured me
it was not so.

I cannot tell you how
my heart has been with you

I with all our Brave Boys thro.
this terrible struggle - & how
much I have wanted to be on
the spot with you to share the
labor & danger. We are all in
for the Union & for the war with
all our hearts. I am rejoiced
to see such a triumph in Maine.
Its moral influence will equal
I hope a victory in the field -
& will encourage our friends &
defenders in the Army.

It has been a source of great
pleasure to me to find th^o among
all the turmoil of active service
yr. heart holds itself true to the
higher Cause of Christ. You may
be sure there are multitudes of
Christian men & women all thro.
N. England, who sympathize
with you & pray for you. They
have rejoiced in yr. constancy

& Christian consistency. And I
doubt not the many a time when
in the midst of difficulties &
temptations yr. weak heart has
felt strengthened - that invigorating
influence fr. above may have been
drawn down upon you by the
prayers of many whom you never
saw. I trust you will be
enabled to "endure to the end"
& th^o your influence over the troops
may be blessed to many conversions
among them.

You will ask me to
tell you something abt. myself.
I am settled over the Ch^h in
this town - have been since Apr. '59.
My relations to my people are of
the pleasantest sort - I love them
& they love me. We get along as
happily as I peas in a pod. I
endeavor to preach to them the whole

Hamington Sept. 20, 1863

My dear Brother

We have had a stormy Sabbath - but the rain did not come down fast till evening and we have had a medium sized meeting tonight. I preached A.M. on Deut. xxxii. 31. "Their Rock is not as our rock even our enemies themselves being judges." trying to prove the inferiority of worldly sources of trust & joy to those of Christians from the testimony of the enemies of Christianity.

This P.M. I preached on Heb. 11 v. 8. "Today if ye will hear his voice harden not your hearts" - enforcing the ⁽¹⁾ fact of hard hearts, ⁽²⁾ the methods of hardening & the ⁽³⁾ dangers consequent: Tonight we have been dwelling on the parable of the 10. Virgins: O God, may I be prepared to die thro. but just awakened from a sound sleep as were those virgins. When Jesus calls = How many a "Midnight cry" the poor Soldier hears! Warren Washburn sent us word Friday as he came from Augusta that Jamie was better = Ella visited Lizzie by him Tuesday, & I will write soon & will go down any time that I can do any good = Rev. Mr. Adams & I spoke for Ab. Com. in Milton Tuesday &

Seldom are our spiritual exercises strong enough to interrupt our daily habits! So we feel enough for the conversion of our children! How anxious for their health - their moraliz- their respectabiliz - How little anxiety for their conversion - I wonder if her sons would ever have been converted if our mother had never wept & prayed in secret places for that very object when we were little! I sometimes fear that dear little Guy would not go to heaven if he should die now. I speak not of this to arouse your parental tenderness and make you anxious to be with your family but to "provoke" you to the "good work" of prayer - for which I feel that I need every stimulus that the very strongest motives often & pointedly presented, can afford = Ella & David are sleeping sweetly and I must say good night - May God give you richly of his Holy Spirit & Enable you fully to open your heart to his providences - Love to Elizabeth Portland

Please when all possible & will be doing our best.

got 2 of them: We speak in the same
Cause at Phillips next Tuesday evening
D. V. = I think what you said before
the Election did good, in allaying a party
spirit - in developing a deeper patriotism -
and in rebuking meanness, sneaking
& cowardice which are our Yankee
besetting sins - So far as I know the
Election was carried on noble, manly
principles & every man who contributed
to the result has good reason to rejoice
& thank God - The Republican party lost some
by the influence of the Draft & (gained)
others ^{new} to the Union cause by disgust at
Smith & other Copperhead leaders - I
don't know whether Nellie got home
to vote or not - I notice the death
of Oliver Ames - his great uncle, on Tuesday
of last week - no news from Leeds -
David goes to sleep just before dark
alone in his crib and says his
prayer quite distinctly after his mother,
& gives us some new words & sentences every
day - He often speaks of "Mica" Otis, &
"Lally" - Perry arrived at Sarah's with
his wife last evening - She looks quite
well and appears very cheerful - They
were kept from meeting by the rain,
but Sarah was out all day - Perry

seems to walk, eat, & sleep as well
as ever & looks about as fleshy - I only
called a few moments last evening -
I sent you miserable Chancellorsville
pamphlet to Prof Whittier & he returned
it with some "marginal readings" &
"Scholia" - & the enclosed note - From
the time hot weather, when we have
pitied you & the soldiers very much,
our days have become uncomfortable
cold & a fire is necessary again -

I often find myself wondering at
the way in which the Providence of God
has led you, & almost fear any change
in your position lest it be for the worse -
but if you live a life of faith - faith kept
alive by constant prayer - you will be
led - guided - upheld & blessed of God
& I know that that is your highest am-
bition - I hope you will never forget
your obligation to labor personally for
Christ - O that the soul of President Lincoln
might be converted to God!

Rev. Charles Beecher lately stated in a
conference that the thing that surprised
him most with the speed of Christ
was the fact that one day his parents
were so anxious for his conversion that
they could not eat a meal - Now

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

Watlett's Station September 20th 1863.

Dearest - I received Mrs Stinson's letter yesterday & began to realize how sick our poor little Jamie is. The dispatch of the 18th was two days later. The at present makes me fear he is yet no better; but I cannot yet realize we shall lose him. I say & try to feel as you do "My will be done". God has been truly, gracious, long-suffering and ^{of} tender kindness to us. Mrs Stinson says you look pale & worn. I hope you will not over-work but I know you cannot spare yourself. She said Mother had come, but did not say whether Grace had come home. Jamie said in his little room room: "God loves Jamie" and "God sure, Papa loves Jamie". When he is delirious he does not realize his suffering.

I write very slowly, because I keep stopping.
It is Sabbath morning about 10 a.m. The
weather has become very cold. I am left
25 miles in the rear of the rest of the
army to guard the communications. This
is a mercy now for I can hear from
home with more regularity. Were it I
was on the front line. John says I
have but ten minutes more. I can
think only of home. God be near to
you in Christ - strengthen and bless
you all. I do earnestly pray that he
may spare us our dear little boy -
We will try to do well by him. Oh how
many poor afflicted parents in our
country die just as we do. Yet

He loveth mercy and not sacrifice. I
am a sinful man. I feel that I do
not keep the honor & glory of God con-
stantly before my eyes, and cannot
without the help of My Saviour.

The tablet of yesterday (it has not been
turned) says - "To me to live is Christ, to
die is gain". It is hard to feel that to die
is gain - good bye darling, much love
to them all - God bless you -
Sincerely - Otis

Red Bank Va. Sept. 21 1863

Dear - I am on the way, my infantry
is on train ahead and my artillery
behind. This is the celebrated Baltimore
and Ohio R.R. which the rebels break
up and which the energetic Company
immediately repair. I have a
good car for me and my staff,
in which I now am writing. I have
a little board on my knee and
a piece of paper on it - a candle on
col. Meigs' ironing little desk. stood up
without a candle stick - We are now
going to ascend the mountain at
the rate of 116 feet to the mile. I wish
it was day. (It is 3 P.M. Sunday evening)
I felt very happy to get a few lines from
you, giving me news up to Tuesday
night. I feel so anxious about our
little boy that I don't like to write
of anything else. When it will the
cars be as started - Good night
I am as well - but when I thought
of you. I have a swollen face from
my newly filled tooth. I wish I could
help you - My aunt very much
for papa & mamma & for herself
- Boys be full sure that the boys the
- Savion - Lovingly - etc

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

Sept. 23^d Gettysburg 1863.

Dear Sir,

Several of our Colonels
sometimes come to see me
during those few moments
set apart to write to you -
Gen. Schurz & Col. Buschbeck
have just gone leaving me
15 minutes. I asked Charles
to write for pens I would
not get a moment. I have
heard from you up to Thursday
last and I am hoping that the
dear little boy is improving
and that you are not

room out. I am hoping
to get a letter from you
today. I try to pray for
you and all the Londoners
daily. I am now having
some defensive works con-
structed to keep the river
busy & hear that I have
some plan. I am still
examining the rail road & bridge
and Mendota me that he
regarded it as a most
important duty. I visited
Dulles the day before yesterday
saw Gen Williams. He is well,
would like to have things

so that he could make
a visit home. Pass Jennie
prayer wishes he could help
take care of him. Much
love to Mary. Blessings for
the baby - I's mother well
and still with you - Give her
my love - May God bless
you in his Holy keeping.
Amen & every one well.
Sincerely
Otis

I don't forget her, think she
is at Leeds.

Head. qrs. 11th Corps
Sept. 23 1862

My dear Sister Lizzie

His just
Came in and said as he
had two Officers Gen. Schurz
and Col Burchbeck in his
tent he feared he would
not be able to write you
and wished I would
do so - said that he was
very anxious still about
Jennie - that he had
rec'd nothing later than
the Telegram and your
note in pencil of the same
day - Mrs. Thurson's also

Some to Mother to carry and as much as you can can
I am not forgetting Grace by seeds.

of the same date.
says that he is well - I
never knew him to show
so much anxiety as he has
about dear little Jennie
I do trust we will
get some cheering news
from you soon.

Supper mother is with
you - It is a clear cold
morning but the sun is so
bright - we can rarely get
warm - In fact we keep
very comfortable - The army
may move to the attack
any day but it is doubtful
if we get to the point at all.
Ever your affectionate brother
C. H. Howard

Headquarters Eleventh Corps.

Warrenton Va. Sept. 25th 1863.

Dear

I have been ordered to the West with the 11th Corps and am now on the way. I will be further from home and perhaps ^{have} hard work. I trust our darling boy is growing better. Give him papa's love & papa's kiss when he, poor boy, is able to hear it. Send your next letter darling, to Nashville Tenn. I feel that I am a sinner before God. I do wrong every day and my heart is burdened with much love to my dear Annie & the baby and hot

When you read them and use.
I am stopping tonight at the
City Hotel Alexandria, I enclose
Supt's pay today & enclose you
a check of \$250. Please
acknowledge - When, & if
it may be well - sending them
by car is trouble some work.
Lovingly - Otis -

Augusta. Sept. 26th 1863

Dear brother & sister

I received your letter this evening, and will answer to-night as I have the time. Dear little Jamie has been gaining for the last four days, and we think now that he will recover - that God will spare him longer to us. He has had a hard time, is a mere shadow of himself. I do not think his limbs any larger than Davies. his head looks as if it was on a pivot. I do not think he realized all his sufferings because he was so delirious. I am thankful he suffered no more, and was sick no longer. one night we thought he could not live 24 hours - and he would not had there not been a change for the better. I gave him up - I don't know as I had a wish to keep him

Dear Mother & Sister
 I am so glad to hear from you & that you are all well & happy. I hope you will all be well & happy for many years to come. I am so glad to hear from you & that you are all well & happy. I hope you will all be well & happy for many years to come. I am so glad to hear from you & that you are all well & happy. I hope you will all be well & happy for many years to come.

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longer for I felt it God's will to take
him, and it was so hard to see him suffer.
His little mind was very active when awake -
and himself - he told me every thing he ever
knew - among other things that "God had
flowers for Jamie - all tied" an original
thought with him and very comforting to me.
Mother I sent for and Grace she was with
me a week. Mr Clark was sick in bed three
days ^{soon} after I came home, then Charlotte, and
when Mother came Mr Clark was crawling
about the house. everybody here was
very kind and I am through it all.
I am well but very much worn and
need much rest, which I do not get
as yet. If I have no company, and can
keep the house quiet a few weeks longer
I hope Jamie will be quite well, and
myself well rested. Jamie cannot even
stand, or rest on his feet when I take
him out of bed now. It is a great deal
of work to take care of him now, but I have

no anxiety with the labor, Grace is at
Leeds and I wish her to remain some
time longer if she is contented. Guy goes
to school - baby is very well. Last letters
from Otis the night dated Sept. 23. ^{at} ^{Leeds}.
He is guarding the common section ^{was} 25 miles
in rear of the Army the 20th - they were all
very well. Jamie is sleeping very sweetly now.
I hope and trust I will not have to get
up with him to night. I did not last
night - only gave him drink as he called
for it. I havnt had baby in the room yet to
sleep, but think I shall to night.

I hope you are all well. Give love to Sarah
Perry and wife. Your loving Sister

Linn

I have written very hastily
but hope you will be
able to read it.

two little birds nests. At present
she is entertaining Lizzie Gilmore
who is "making a call".

Father's hand seems to be improving and
he is about his "farm duties".

Grace was anxious that I should
write upon the same sheet that she
did, which will partly explain the
lack of neatness.

My love to Guy and Jamie.

Your aff. brother
Dec.

Mrs. O. O. Howard

Dear daughter you will perceive by
this, that Grace and I came safely
through the day we left you with
little sick Jamie and baby I find
myself thinking about you often,
and indeed much of the time
give much love to Guy and
Jamie, baby in his little way.

Mrs. Clark and Lottie & hope
are in better health, in haste &c.

SEP. 27. 1863.

Dear mama my
uncle Dellie has come home. I am
very sorry that I have not
written you a letter but I
cannot help it. Mr. Turner and
elder were here the next
day after your first letter
came. the next day we prepared
for a apple pie but they
did not come because
it rained, and so we
had it all to our sel-
ves. I string twelve strings
of apples in all. how
with the baby getting along
without me. how are you
and Guy and Lottie getting
along. I have NOT got
cold yet. I had both of your
letters and have them now.
Laura and her baby and un-
cle Ensign were here

today, the baby does not
cry as much as it did.
it is Monday morning
now tonight we are
going to have the apple
tonight. from your loving
loving Aunt Grace.

Leeds Sept. 23: 1863.

My dear sister:

My return to Leeds on
Saturday night has been duly
chronicled by Grace. Mother's letter
written at Augusta to me never
reached me or Cousin Olive as far
as I know. Did it get into the office.
I learned through Cousin Warner
Woodman that Mother was at your
house and that Jamie was sick.
We were very glad to hear from you
on Saturday evening and that Jamie
was getting better. We hope to hear
soon of his recovery. Had it not been

for Jamie's illness. I think I
should have gone up to your house
Saturday instead of going home.
My health is improved though I
am far from being well.

I propose to commence my Law
Studies about the first of Nov.

The place has not yet been decided
upon. You may remember that
I mentioned studying in Augusta,
when I was with you last. It may
be that in the course of a few weeks
I shall go down to Augusta with
the view of informing ~~you~~ myself
concerning the Law advantages there.

I left Cousin Warner & wife at
Boston on Wednesday last. They were
nicely. — Grace is very well and
appears to be pretty well contented.
I made her a swing this morning.
She was also made very much pleased
by the presentation on my part of

Farmington Sept. 24/63
 Dear Little Lizzie

We have been made very anxious by hearing thro. Col. Woodman that Jamie was dangerously sick. Ella says if she can be any use to you, she will leave any day & send David to Bath from Brunswick & go to you. And I will come too, if I can do anything.

Abby felt very badly that she had made such positive engagements & could not go to you. Mrs. Patten came up. Last night I will return tomorrow.

Borg & wife are at Locals. He walked up here twice yesterday & seems nicely.

May God grant dear little Jamie "recovery grace" and support you under the great weight of care.
 your loving brother
 Portland

P.S. If darling Jamie should not live I must come.

Dear Mother
 I received your kind letter
 of the 10th and was
 glad to hear from
 you. I am well and
 hope these few lines
 will find you the same.
 I have not much news
 to write at present.
 The weather here is
 very warm now.
 I must close for
 this time. Write soon.
 Your affectionate son,
 John Smith



Milford Sept 28th 1863

My Genl O O Howard

Dear Sir,

I thank you for your kindness in sending me the measure of your foot, and for the pleasure I have derived in making a pair of boots, for a kinsman of my new relative, Maj Lee, who with Libby is now down East visiting his friends in Maine.

Pardon me the liberty of casting any reflection upon "your understanding" but I must say that for a "big General" you certainly have a very small foot. All I trust is that my boots may not detract from its grace, nor prove detrimental to my skill as a New-England Manufacturer. Hoping you may find the boots to fit and that they may contribute to your Comfort

Believe me with much respect
Your Obedt Servt

R D Godfrey

P.S.
The four insoles you will find are adjustable and you can easily take them out should the boots prove to tight. Should the boots not fit, please present them to some "hail well met fellow Officer" who is perrelling his life in the cause of his Country and who they may fit and inform me of the necessary alterations you want made in the boots and I will get you up another pair.

I have forwarded the boots to your address via Adams Express 11th Corp Care of the box is marked. Maj Genl O O Howard. New number 11th Corp Main State Agency. Wheelington.

Inches 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Mr. P. D. ...

Annexed to the ...

I have the pleasure to have observed in writing in
 the pleasure of my dear relations, and
 of which, for a time, I have been but writing
 a paper in the name of Liberty, but I must say
 that for a long time I have certainly been a
 great admirer of the liberty of the press, and
 of the right of every man to publish his
 opinions, and to be heard by the world.
 I have been a great admirer of the liberty
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 and of the right of every man to publish
 his opinions, and to be heard by the world.

Bellevue Sept 28 1863

Milford Sept 30th 1863.
 Maj Gen O. Howard,
 Dear Sir,

I have forwarded to your address this morning, via Adams Express a Box containing a pair of Boots I have had the pleasure of making for you and an accompanying note. The more I see of my new relative "Maj Lee" the more I am pleased to say I find cause to love and admire ^{in him} and as there is a strain of blood the same flowing in your veins as his, I cannot help feeling a little interest in your welfare as well as Perry's. I hope the Boots may fit you and if I can be the humble means of adding in the least to your comfort it will afford me a high gratification.

Maj Lee has been getting along finely of late; he and Libby are at present absent from Milford visiting Mr Lee's friends in Maine. Adieu! May God bless ~~and protect you~~ ^{with} in all your efforts, until peace shall be restored ~~and~~ the Union maintained in all its integrity; is the humble prayer of

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Servt

W. S. Godfrey

Letter from
Mr. Godfrey
Wilmington Mass.
(Boots)

Ms. A. 9. 2. 6. Godfrey

