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2014 11/2/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1960

*Source:* Bowdoin

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps  
Lookout Valley near  
Chattanooga

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[437]

Headquarters Eleventh Corps  
Lookout Valley near Chattanooga  
Nov. 2nd 1863

Dearest,

I will write you just a few lines this morning. I get yr letters very regularly and am most happy to hear from home, though 7 & eight days is a good while. I am happy to know that you are well.

I would give anything to have Col. Woodman come to me with his regiment of Cavalry. Write to Mrs Woodman frankly how much pleasure it would give you to have her stay with you this winter. I think it would tend to relieve the loneliness of both of you.

We were in a state of feverish anxiety last night. The rebels succeeded by rafts & logs in breaking our bridges, thus in cutting us off from Chattanooga. They were also reported moving down the Lookout mountain towards us. My men have worked all night in covering our front. I slept well – am used to alarms, should sleep sounder at home. You ought to see the chicken pen we are now in. Our tents are expected today and I am having a house made for me.

Much love to yourself and the children. Would write more but must get our works done so as to be safe. May God help & strengthen and bless Lizzie, Guy, Grace, Jamie & Chancy.

Lovingly,  
Otis

P.S. Love to all from Charles.

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2015 11/4/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1961

Head Quarters 11th  
Corps

*Source:* Bowdoin

Lookout Valley Tenn.

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[438]

Head Quarters 11th Corps  
Lookout Valley Tenn.  
November 4th 1863

Dearest,

You perceive by the above date that you have gained a year on me as I am 32 and you 31. I got a good letter from you last night dated Oct 27th. It came to me in seven days, one day better than any preceding letter.

I saw Gen. Baird today. He enquired kindly for you. His wife is in New York. Yes. Gen. Thomas is the same whose wife you met at West Point. He is a man of sterling good qualities. John Willard of Troy is Capt. & on his staff. The Gen. invited me to dine with him any time I could go over to Chattanooga & I promised to do so.

I am very much pleased with Gen. Grant. He doesn't play the great man at all, but goes straight forward about his business. Gen Grant's Head Quarters are also at Chattanooga.

The rebels still occupy Lookout mountain & occasionally throw a shell down into this valley. [Sketch of the region around Lookout mountain & valley, Chattanooga, Raccoon range.] The mountains are very high. I went up Raccoon Mt yesterday in the afternoon, rode part of the way and walked the rest with Gen. Geary. The Gen. (Geary) lost a son in our late action. He talked with me about it yesterday. Said his son had a Mother living.

I have written in behalf of Perry - for invalid Corps. I hope he will get strong as I am. You must not stop to look forward to winter. It will come soon enough and soon be gone. Mr & Mrs Webb have staid in Maine a long time.

I have just got a house built like the one at Bridgeport. The chimney was a little too deep so I had it rendered shallow by a large flat stone. This stone being a peculiar lime stone keeps exploding & sending large flakes over my hearth, carpet, & floor.

Gen Hazen whom you met once at West Point with a lame hand commands a brigade on this side the river. He enquired for Mrs Howard. You must be feeling quite womanly today. I would be glad to be able to pull your ears or pinch your cheeks. Guy & Grace must now find Chattanooga on the map. Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee come so near together here that we hardly know what state we live in. I presume you have seen Mr Gilbreth before this time. He left us at Bridgeport. We shall be glad to see him back. Is it really a fact that Col. Lakeman has been promoted?

Much love & many kisses to all at home. I trust, my darling wife, that another birth day may not find us separated. We should bless God for the pleasing hope of meeting. I cannot forget Col Underwood's resolute & patriotic little wife.

Is Chancy yet well but I fear not. God bless you all.

Lovingly  
Otis

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2016 11/6/1863    *From:* Ella P. H. [Howard]

*To:* My dear sister Lizzie  
[Howard]

OOH-1962

Farmington

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[439]

Farmington Nov. 6th 1863

My dear sister Lizzie

We reached home last evening – having enjoyed our trip exceedingly – with the exception of a few days at Milford, in which Rowland was quite sick – but he says he enjoyed those! He took a severe cold, & had quite a high fever for four or five days – nearly all the time we were there.

I found four letters here, with the budget that was awaiting us at the P.O. As to the question of “What shall we wear” - there seems to be as great a variety, as if there were no war in the world. It was very stupid in me not to think that you might have some errands I could do for you. I might have thought to let you know we were going, but I didn't. I wish I had, for I should have liked the fun of buying some of those nice dresses which were entirely beyond my limited purse.

The furs had just begun to be exhibited in the windows, as I came home, but I presume they are pretty high, like everything else. I think the Hudson Bay sable is very handsome. I think Mamma's victorive, by itself, was about \$75 a year ago. I think that was it. Hers is a very handsome one. Those I saw in Boston were about the same styles as have been worn. The Russia is of course more expensive, but I dont think it is a bit handsomer, do you?

In dress goods, bright colors seem to predominate. I saw plaids of all kinds - blue & green are very fashionable, in plaids, & seem to be especially sought after. I saw a great many plain colors, in poplins – or ottomans – I dont know the difference, which were elegant, some of them 2 ½ & 3 dollars a yard. Some of the handsomest blue & green plaids were as high as that – but they were double width, of course. Mamma got a very pretty one for Hattie, [single width was crossed out] (I forget) for 1.50.

O there are lots of pretty things, if you only have the money for them!

Sarah did not go with Perry & Lizzie. I have not seen her since we came home, but saw Frankie this morning. Dadie stayed at Bath while I was away. He was a very good boy I believe. He has got into Jamie's way of clipping his name, & calls himself “Da”, entirely. He acquired that while I was gone. I am glad Jamie is getting along so nicely. Dear little fellow. Lizzie Lee told me how pale & thin he was. She was delighted with her visit at Augusta. We didn't see Perry – he had gone to Washington. The Sunday we were at Milford, Rowland was not able to go out to church at all. The Sabbath before, he preached at New Bedford. He would send much love to you if he were here. He has a meeting over the river tonight.

We had a letter from Charles tonight, written after their victory, by which he seems very much elated. I am so thankful for their success.

How is Mrs Clark now? I do hope she will be well this winter & you wont have too much care. I wish I could see you oftener, & I am so sorry I was so stupid, before I went to Boston.

Good night.  
Ella P. H.

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2017 11/7/1863 *From:* Catharina Mueller

*To:* Major General [OO]  
Howard

OOH-1963

Philadelphia

Commanding 11th Army  
Corps  
Cumberland Army

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[23]

Major General Howard  
Commanding 11th Army Corps  
Cumberland Army

Philadelphia Novbr 7, 1863

Dear Sir,

The petition of the undersigned respectfully represents to you the following

I the undersigned Catherina Mueller am the legal wife of Herrman Mueller a member of the 54th New York Regiment. The said Herrman Mueller deserted me on the 16th of June 1860 taking with him my whole property of \$200 which I had saved by many years hard labor. He subsequently enlisted in the above named regiment and since the time of his leaving me has never provided for my support or even sent me a word of notice of his whereabouts until I was informed by a friend who served in the same regiment that my husband enlisted therein. Some four months after his desertion I had a little daughter born, for whom he is also in duty bound to provide for. I am a poor unfortunate woman, not acquainted with the course of law and unable to prosecute my husband in his position wherein he is now situated. I have no other means left as to appeal to your heart and feelings, to have my husband the above named Herrman Mueller compelled to provide for me & my child or at least to make him pay a reasonable part of his salaries as I am in the greatest need, have nobody to help me and besides I am compelled to support my aged and infirm mother.

Dear General, by aiding me in my helpless situation you will do a great deal of good to a poor deserted woman & child and I therefore sincerely hope that this letter will not be received unfavorable by you.

I am Sir most respectfully

Your humble servant  
Catharina Mueller  
(her X mark)

My address is  
Catharina Mueller  
care of Mrs Wulfe No. 220 Rare Str.  
Philadelphia Pa.

[Written upside down on the last page of the letter in another hand.]  
Letter from Mrs Mueller asks that her husband Prv. 54th N.Y. be compelled to support her.

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2018 11/9/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1964

Lookout Valley, Tenn.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[410]

Lookout Valley, Tenn.  
November 9 1863

Dearest,

Yesterday was sunday and my birthday. At sunrise I was wakened by the 33d Band playing "sounds from home".

I visited Col Underwood yesterday. He is cheerful & I hope he may yet live, his father & father-in-law were with him. They dined with me yesterday - are from the home of Perry's wife. I carried him a copy of my tablets for the day - which Chas. had prepared to send to Mother. Selections are - Rom. 5-8, John 3-16 & Num 8-32 and Ps. 103 and 1 John 4. He was much pleased. A clerk had printed them in large hand.

At four P.M. we had services here. Chaplain of 33d N. Jersey preached. I said a few words after he was done, expressing my interest in the men & my hope, that they might each be able to say with Col Underwood, if I die it will be "All right" with me. The band was present and played some excellent hymns. I had a pleasant surprise just before dinner. My staff nicely dressed with [out] giving me any warning came in a body & Col Asmussen made a short congratulatory speech to me, in behalf of the rest, because it was my birth-day. I tried to reply & thank them for their uniform attention to duty & aid to me.

We have had a hard struggle to get forage & rations but are now doing better.

My birth day passed pleasantly but would have suited me better if I could have suspended all work. I did so at 4 P.M.

Give much love to all the darling little ones. I sympathize with Guy in suspenders & pants & jacket. It is almost equal to new boots. Will Grace get to long dresses before papa gets home? I hope not. Is Jamie getting strong & athletic? May God bless & keep you as ever. I am now quite well & so is Charles.

Lovingly  
Otis

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2019 11/11/1863 *From:* Robt. Hubbard  
Actng  
Med. Director  
11th Corps

*To:* Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-1965

*Source:* Bowdoin

Office of the Medical  
Director,  
Eleventh Corps, Army  
of the Cumberland  
Lookout Valley

Comnd'g 11th Corps  
Army of the Cumberland

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[24]

Office of the Medical Director,  
Eleventh Corps, Army of the Cumberland  
Lookout Valley Nov. 11th 1863.

General:

Having suffered from illness since the middle of July 1863 which I fear has become chronic, and believing that a radical change of all the unfavorable circumstances which surround me in the Service, for a protracted period of time, necessary to restore me to health, I have concluded to offer, through my regiment, my resignation as soon as I can make the requisite adjustment of my business affairs with the different Departments of the Government. I therefore respectfully request the Commanding General to relieve me from my present duties as Acting Medical Director of the Corps as soon as the office can be satisfactorily filled.

A grateful sense of obligation to the Commanding General and my associate members of his Staff for the Complimentary and Courteous treatment which I have uniformly received from them all has induced me long to defer taking any steps towards dissolving such honorable and to me agreeable relations. With sincere thanks for the many acts of personal kindness I have received at your hands, and heartfelt wishes for your success and happiness I remain

Very respectfully  
Your Obedt. Servt  
Robt. Hubbard Actng  
Med. Director  
11th Corps

Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard  
Comnd'g 11th Corps  
Army of the Cumberland

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2020 11/12/1863 *From:* Papa [OO Howard]

*To:* My dear boy [Guy Howard]

OOH-1966

*Source:* Bowdoin

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps,  
Lookout Valley Tenn.

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[441]

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,  
Lookout Valley Tenn. Nov. 12, 1863

My dear boy

I have just received a letter from Mamma. She says Guy has improved in reading. I am glad to hear this for a poor reader seems like a poor scholar. In this part of the country I have not met a little boy who can read or write. There are no school houses. Hardly any of the grown up people can read. They make their mark, thus: "William (his X mark) Wilson" The man makes only the cross; Somebody else writes the name.

From the high mountain the rebels throw shells down every day with their guns: only one or two have done us any harm. They fire at us in the morning and at Chattanooga in the afternoon. [Sketch of Chattanooga, Lookout Mt., Tenn. R., Lookout Creek, Papas troops]

Papa has had a chimney built of stone and has had a house built like the one at Bridgeport. [Sketch of his house.] A tent in front a log basement and a tent fly for a roof. The weather is very warm in the day but very cold at night. John wraps me up in my Guniacca robe at night, tucks in my feet with an overcoat and if I am cold he puts my dressing gown over my shoulders. He takes his place on the floor with his overcoat and blankets near the fire, and as he says makes one sleep i.e. does not wake till morning unless I wake him.

How is Grace since she came home from Leeds. Were you glad to see her back? You must all have been happy to see Jamie getting well. How is he now? The same happy little boy that papa carried up high on his neck and that John put on the top of the door?

I went to Chattanooga today with Gen. Hooker, saw Gen Thomas who now commands this Army called "The army of the Cumberland". Gen. Bragg commands the rebel army opposite us. We are now making corduroy roads. As soon as it rains here the roads get very muddy and our big army wagons make deep ruts and mud holes so that in a little while the road becomes almost if not quite impassible. Corduroy roads are made thus: [sketch of a section showing the construction] like a bridge only it is a very long bridge and there is no water under the great part of it.

Give much love to Mamma, Grace, Jamie, and Chancy and keep not a little for yourself. Pray for papa in real earnest that God will help him to do what is right. Uncle Charles has gone to Bridgeport, will be back tomorrow. I am sorry Mrs Stinson is sick.

Lovingly  
Papa

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2021 11/12/1863 *From:* S. P. Lee [Samuel  
Perry Lee]

*To:* My dear Cousin [OO  
Howard]

OOH-1967

Washington

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[25]

Washington Novr 12th 1863

My dear Cousin

I have been here ten days. Am waiting the result of my application for an appointment in the Invalid Corps. I  
enclose Gen Meades report. Lizzie is in Milford. All well. With love to Charles.

Your affectionate Cousin  
S. P. Lee [Samuel Perry Lee]

[Written on the back page, in the same hand.]

I have got my appointment as major in the invalid corps and am assigned to duty in Washington.

[Written on the back page in a different hand.]

Maj Lee  
Nov. 12 1863

Letter from Maj Lee  
Washington Nov. 12 1863



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2022 11/13/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1968

Head Quarters -  
Lookout Valley

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[442]

Head Quarters - Lookout Valley  
Nov. 13. 1863

Dearest,

I wrote to Guy yesterday. I doubt if I will be able to write you every day and I am afraid it would not be good policy for as soon as there was a march there would be an interruption hard to account for. Gen. Meigs paid me a brief and pleasant visit today. Gen Smith W.S. visited me last evening and staid all night. He was in Sill's, Shunk & Bogg's class at West Point [See Note]. He has been assigned as Chief of Cavalry for Gen. Grant. He used to attend Prof. Sprole's bible class with me. He said he had to leave his wife three day's before her death near the beginning of the war. He is married again.

Charles came back from Bridgeport today. On his way down, he found the steamer gone when he reached Kelly's ferry and so with another Major and a clerk he paddled down the river in a canoe thirty miles. The canoe is called a 'Dugout' and is very narrow & ticklish. [Sketch of 3 people in a canoe] When they came to meet the steamer which they did after dark, Charles says the waves were terrific for his narrow boat. All had to sit in one position during the passage. I am glad I didn't know anything about it till he returned.

We are just getting the Newspaper accounts of our engagement during the night of the 28th & 29th ult. The New York Herald of the 6th inst has a map & quite a detailed recital. I will enclose you a brief one from the Louisville Journal which is mainly correct.

One of my Cadet pupils came to see me today - Lieut Twining. Lt Wharton of the Engineers of J.A. Smith's class was with him. Rabb died on reaching New Orleans soon after graduation.

Chas. got a long letter from John Wier today, very good and characteristic.

Quite goodly numbers of rebel deserters come within our lines every day. I wish they would come in larger bodies. Nothing but pride keeps the Tennesseans back. This coupled with the fear that we will put them into our ranks.

Gen Hardee now commands Gen Polk's Corps right opposite me. A part of his troops are on the top of Lookout Mt. It seems singular that we should be thus vis-a-vis, dont it? Where think the young ladies are. They are probably very strong rebels. I heard somewhere that Miss <Dumounth> had become so.

I suppose you are quietly asleep now and I hope are well. Are you going to West Point to have the baby christened? I would'nt have any objection to Mr. French baptizing him, though I think Mr McKenzie would do very well.

Give a kiss to them all, the little ones, and may the time be hastened when I shall see you all again.

Dellie wrote Charles a very good letter which he received today. Dellie thinks his uncle Oaks Ames may wish to employ him this winter, but is not certain, says father never felt so poor as he does now.

Mr Gilbreth's time is out but he is not back yet, we are looking for him. He writes that his foot still troubles him.

With my best love & a prayer that God will bless & keep you I will close,

Your loving husband  
Otis

[Note. Joshua W. Sill, William R. Boggs, Francis J. Shunk and William S. Smith graduated 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th,

respectfully, in the West Point class of 1853.]

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2023 11/15/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1969

Head Quarters 11th  
Corps  
Lookout Valley

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[443]

Head Quarters 11th Corps  
Lookout Valley November 15 1863

Dearest,

I have not received a letter from you since I last wrote, but Lt. Gilbreth writes that you are all well. He seems to have stretched his leave beyond the twenty days. I got a rumor, I think thro. Capt. Stinson that Mr Gilbreth was going to bring me a bundle. Perhaps you are sending me a pair of shirts. I would'nt object. I will take mine which have grown small and short sleeved as under & use the new ones for over. My boots, which Mrs Lizzie Lee's uncle made for me went to Washington and have'nt yet returned. We have few incidents to vary the monotony of military stand still.

The rebels keep hurling shells down into this valley at our trains and Camps. They can see us better in the morning when the sun is at their backs. They turn round and shell Chattanooga in the afternoon. One poor man in the 101st Ill. was hit this a.m. and lost his arm. Today is sunday and we are to have services at the hospital at 4 P.M. and I must now suspend writing to go.

Evening. 7 ½ P.M.

Col. Balloch, Capt Pearson, Capt. Stinson, Dr. Hubbard and Charles accompanied me. My orderly took a basket of grapes and we rode about a mile to the Hospital. We found the religious [added in red] services in progress already when we arrived. The poor sick ones who could leave their beds had gathered near the largest hospital and had their hats off reverently while the Chaplain was praying. The Sick inside the tents could hear as canvass obstructs the sound very little. We sang a hymn and then the chaplain preached a Sermon about giving our bodies & spirits a living sacrifice holy and acceptable unto God. He gave many earnest appeals and I think left a good impression on the men and officers present.

While he was speaking the rebels made themselves heard by an occasional shell from Lookout mountain. The 33d Massachusetts band came up and, as soon as the sermon was over, struck up some familiar hymns and airs that were sweet and cheering. As I went thro. the hospital I asked the men if they liked the music. "Oh, yes, I wish they'd play often" was the burden of the response.

After going to see all the sick, who were confined to their beds, Capt. Stinson and I took a trip along the lines, so that I could point out to him where I wanted work done early in the morning.

I hope Mrs Stinson is well again. A military sunday at the best is not so good as one at home. I suspended work today on the Works and also on the roads. The rebels are making a little show of force in our front but I do not think they are going to attack us. If they will be kind enough to wait a day or longer, I would'nt care so much if they did attack us for they would be likely to miss by it.

Col. Underwood 33d Mass. left two days ago. He was carried to Kelly's ferry by his men. I saw him after he reached that point 4 ms. from here. He bore <his journey [added in red]> well, but he has a dreadful wound and I am afraid he will not get well. He said to me he was very happy. Christ was with him all the time. He should ever call me his friend. His father a man about 60 is one of noble specimens of a New England business man with a good head and a tender heart. His father-in-law Mr. Walker looks like Lt. Col Sampson 3d Me. They two took care of him & will bear him to his wife. She was telegraphed to, to come on as far as Nashville. It will be very delightful to him to see her. She is a beautiful little woman. She had a little daughter with her when she visited him at Brook's station.

Our battle lost but few but they were a noble few. Capt Buckwalter of 73d Ohio was as handsome a young man as I ever saw. He graduated at a college before the war at the head of his class. I have heard of his mother and that it will be very, very hard for her to bear his death. How often is the same sad tale told. My son, my brother, my husband killed in battle? I trust the drama is drawing to a close, though I fear many more just such

sacrifices before the end. I wish you knew the different members of my staff. You would like Col. Meysenburg very much. He is modest & dignified. Dr Hubbard is so true a man that you would confide in him without question. Col Asmussen doesn't strike the ladies favorably. He deals with men and knows how to make them move. Col. Balloch is rough and kind & true as steel. Capt Skofield my Provost Marshall says he has administered the Oath of Allegiance to Eighty five persons and only one could write the name.

I have got almost to the bottom of my page. Give much love to the children. I propose to write my very next letter to Gracie. Does Jamie begin to look for any letters from papa yet. I must hurry home or I will not have a chance to enjoy Chancy's babyhood, and then you are getting so aged – 31. Why it seems but a little time since you were a bride. My kind regards to Mrs Clark and Lottie. Pray for me darling that I may be pure and wise.

Your loving husband  
Otis

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2024 11/17/1863 *From:* O.O. Howard

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

OOH-1970

*Source:* Bowdoin

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps,  
(Lookout valley)

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[432]

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,  
November 17th (Lookout valley) 1863

My dear little daughter,

I wrote Guy and then Mamma and ceased with a promise that you should have the next letter. I am glad you had so nice a time with Grandma. I wish I was near enough so that you could pay me a visit.

There are a great many children living in this Valley, but none of them can read & write. I told a boy 12 years of age that he ought to learn, and asked John to teach him. His name is Philip. Philip came last evening and received one lesson. He did know his letters. I should like to have him and his two smaller brothers come and see me often if they had not such dreadfully dirty hands, feet, faces and clothes. Peter's hair was never combed and is so matted & faded that it looks like an old faded cloth cap.

"Bill" played all day on Saturday without anything on but one under garment. Today Bill & Peter were playing with our grindstone when Peter hit the crank against Bill's head and made him cry. Soon Bill hit Peter and he began to cry. Bill is about as big as Guy & Peter a fat boy is somewhat smaller. Bill declared he would kill Peter. I asked him, if I should give him an axe or a bayonet.

Sometimes I hear these very dirty little boys singing with a beautiful clear voice and ringing out a sound like the hounds in pursuit of a fox: then they have a kind of Indian War hoop that I cannot imitate. Sunday I carried these two boys a book a piece and found there quite a bright looking little girl. The people here are all very poor and very ignorant. The men are most all gone in the rebel army, the women & children are here poor, and very dirty. Their homes are made of logs with large cracks and their chimneys made at the end of the house of logs & sticks, made so large that the fire does not burn them or they are lined with mud.

All this poverty and wretchedness comes from slavery – white people dont like to work, it is not honorable, and they are too poor to buy negroes. The rebel army came here first and then ours, and it was almost impossible to bring corn & hay, so that they both took away much of the corn these poor people had and they had nothing else or almost nothing else. Now we have to feed them with our bread. John has been making him a little log house today. It looks like a long crib with a canvass top.

Uncle Charlie sends his love to Grace, says he wishes he had her down here to teach these little folks how to keep their faces clean and how to read. Give much love to Mamma, Guy, Jamie and Chancey. Dont forget Mrs. Clark and Lottie.

From you affectionate father  
O.O. Howard

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2025 11/17/1863 *From:* Orland Smith  
Col & Corps Off. of  
the <>  
OOH-1971 Hd Qrs 2d Brig 2d Div  
*Source:* Bowdoin 11th Corps  
Lookout Valley

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*To:* Lt. Col C.H. Asmussen  
Chief of Staff

[26]

Hd Qrs 2d Brig 2d Div 11th Corps  
Lookout Valley 11.45 P.M. Nov 17 / 63

Colonel:

Our Pickets all concur in the opinion that no gun has been fired from Lookout mountain tonight. They say the gun fired a short time since was from the direction of Chattanooga and the general impression is that it was from Moccasin Point.

One Sentinel felt sure it was fired at a Signal which he says was working on the point of Lookout at the time.

They report the Signal Station as having been pretty active all the evening, but no unusual camp fires neither any movement seen or heard. I have directed those Outposts nearest my Hd. Qrs. to instruct their Sentinels to report to them if any thing unusual shall be observed and the report to be forwarded to me. Should any be received worthy of notice I will advise you at once.

Very Respectfully  
Orland Smith  
Col & Corps Off. of the <>

Lt. Col C.W. Asmussen  
Chief of Staff

[Written on the back in another hand.]

Letter from Col. Orland Smith relative to firing from Lookout &c.

Nov 6 1863 [This date does not agree with the date at the beginning of the letter.]

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**2026 11/18/1863** *From:* U.S. Grant  
Maj. Gen'l. U.S.A.  
Com'dg  
Headquarters Mil. Div.  
of the Miss.  
Chattanooga, Tenn.

*To:* Maj. Gen. Geo. H.  
Thomas  
Com'dg. Dep't & Army of the  
Cumberland

OOH-1972  
*Source:* Bowdoin

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[27]

Confidential

Headquarters Mil. Div. of the Miss.  
Chattanooga, Tenn. Nov. 18 1863.

Maj. Gen. Geo. H. Thomas.  
Com'dg. Dep't & Army of the Cumberland

General:

All preparations should be made for attacking the enemy's position on Missionary ridge, by Saturday morning at daylight. Not being provided with a map giving names of roads, spurs of the mountain and other places, such definite instructions cannot be given as might be desirable.

However, the general plan you understand is for Sherman with the force brought with him strengthened by a Division from your command to effect a crossing of the Tenn. River just below the mouth of the Chickamauga; his crossing to be protected by artillery from the heights on the north side of the river (to be located by your Chief of Artillery) and to carry the heights from the Northern extremities to about the Rail Road tunnel before the enemy can concentrate a force against him.

You will co-operate with Sherman. The troops in Chattanooga valley should be well concentrated on your left flank, leaving only the necessary force to defend fortifications on the right and centre, and a movable column of one Division in readiness to move wherever ordered.

This Division should show itself as threateningly as possible on the most practicable line for making an attack up the valley.

Your effort then will be to form a junction with Sherman, making your advance well towards the north end of missionary ridge, and moving as near simultaneously as possible.

The junction once formed and the ridge carried communications will be at once established between the two Armies by roads on the south bank of the river. Further movements will then depend on those of the enemy.

Lookout Valley I think will be easily held by Geary's Division and what troops you may still have there belonging to the old Army of the Cumberland. Howard's Corps can then be held in readiness to act either with you at Chattanooga or with Sherman. It should be marched on Friday night to a position on the north side of the river not lower down than the first pontoon bridge, and then held in readiness for such orders as may become necessary.

All the troops will be provided with two days cooked rations in their haversacks and one hundred rounds of ammunition on the person of each Infantry soldier.

Special care should be taken by all officers to see that ammunition is not wasted or unnecessarily fired away.

You will call on the Engineering Dep't. for such preparations as you may deem necessary for crossing your Infantry and Artillery over Cities Creek.

I am, Gen'l, very respectfully,  
Your ob't. Serv't.

(sd) U.S. Grant  
Maj. Gen'l. U.S.A. Com'dg

[Written in red ink]  
Hd Qrs 11th & 12th Corps Nov 20 1863  
Official Copy  
/s/ <HA Pudid>  
A.A.A.G.



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2027 11/20/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1973

*Source:* Bowdoin

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps,  
Lookout Valley

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[445]

[Letterhead]

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,  
Lookout Valley  
Nov. 20 1863

Dearest

I sat down this evening to write you, but Col Orland Smith came in and we have had quite a long talk. The plan had been to attack the enemy tomorrow morning, but Sherman's troops had not all arrived on acct of bad roads, so the work is postponed. It is now raining steadily. Bragg may attack, may retreat, but if there is no insurmountable hindrance I shall expect a great battle before this reaches you. I trust God will give us strength to do our duty to our country and that effectually at this time. This blow is necessary, Gen Longstreet has gone after Gen Burnside. I hope he (Burnside) may be aided by every possible circumstance & kind providence.

I have been in Chattanooga nearly all day, looking at the country, works, rebel positions &c. Met Gen. Sheridan, whom I knew as a Cadet, Gens. Palmer, Granger, Baird and others. Baird seems very kind & attentive to me. We had a pleasant chat. He asks for you & the Children. Willie is quite a boy. Mrs Baird I think is in Washington. I saw Capt Merrill, whom you knew as a cadet. Gen. Thomas is a most excellent man and I trust will do well by us. Charles likes his imperturbability.

Dellie writes from Lewiston, Rowland from Farmington. It is now the 18th day since I have heard from you. I mean your last letter was dated Nov 2nd. I am expecting the next mail will bring me several.

I am not worried because of the want of System that pervades every department or I should say did so – for Gen. Grant, Thomas & others are setting things to rights as fast as possible.

Give much love from papa to Guy, Grace, Jamie and Chancy, and not a little to your self darling. I should be very happy to be at home tonight but that plan is a long way off.

Some rebel letters were thrown across the lines tonight & open – one from a Capt to his lady love & the other from a soldier to his mother. As there was no harm in them I sealed them & sent them on. Poor fellows, how many of them long for the war over & for home. Many have come in lately & given themselves up.

May God bless and protect you and the Children. Pray for me that I may rise above all temptations to evil. I hope you are well.

Lovingly  
Otis

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2028 11/22/1863 *From:* Eliza Gilmore

*To:* Mrs Lizzie Howard

OOH-1974

Leeds

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[416]

Leeds Nov 22, 1863

My dear daughter,

I have been thinking for sometime, & wished Lizzie and Gracie would find time to drop me a line or two to let me know of their general welfare. I imagine you caring for first one and then another, but thinking all the time that all the family are well, or in some way, I should hear of their sickness. I received a letter from Charles and Otis to day. Otis did not write any, but I had news from both. It was written on Otis birth day. He mentions the pleasant attentions received from his friends that day. You recollect the 8th was on the Sabbath. I wish you were here to read Charles letter. He had the texts that Otis prepared for the day, copied and sent them in the letter. On the whole, it was a pleasant and satisfactory letter to me. It had been written two weeks when I received it.

This is Mr Gilmore's birth day 22nd of Nov, seventy three years, 73 years old. His health is good. He has done quite an amount of labor this autumn, went out to the circle with me two weeks ago to Mr Francis Lothrop's. I think he miss'd Grace's lively happy ways as much as any of us.

We were really very lonely after she left us. How is she? Happy I hope. Is Jamie as well as he was before his sickness. How is baby? Growing fat all the time, and Guy is his health good and is he contributing his share in helping his mother taking care of his little Brothers?

I have been out to the funeral of Mrs Sumner's youngest son of ten years 10 years, who has died of dyptheria after struggling with it two weeks, the youngest of four sons, 4 sons.

Oscar in just now says he is going to Augusta next week and take Bell with him. I shall hear from you when she returns. Bell is a good Christian. What a place she has got into, but I hope she may yet be the means in Gods hands of much good in that family. Tell Grace tis but a few days since I finished taking down her play house. How is Mrs Clark's health and how is Lottie's at this time, and is Mrs Woodman with you yet? I heard from Farmington last monday. All pretty well. I dont know when we shall be able to get there again. The rains have injured the railroad track so much between Livermore Falls and Farmington. The cars only run to Livermore Falls at present.

Dellie left home a few days after his return from Augusta. We shall expect him home Thanksgiving day. I wish I could say the same of some other of my sons. Rowland preaches on that day, and where are Otis and Charles? I wish you could step in with your family on that day, and take a slice of Grandpa's doblers as Gracie was wont to call them, but if they are all in good health I will try to be content.

Warren Mower's youngest daughter is in bad health so we shall not expect any one from there at thanksgiving. We have no services at the centre on thanksgiving day, but at the Union Chappel there is one, at North Leeds.

Give much love to Grace and each one of your family individually. Do drop me a line to let me know how you are and when you hear from Otis.

From your affectionate mother  
Eliza Gilmore

Mrs Lizzie Howard

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2029 11/22/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1975

*Source:* Bowdoin

Headquarters Eleventh  
Corps,  
Lookout Valley

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[447]

[Letterhead]

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,  
Lookout Valley Nov. 22nd 1863

Dearest,

Mr Gilbreth has returned with this good letter which I have before me, bringing those nice shirts which John says you must have made. He knows it. John has no confidence in my shopping ability, since I got a pr of pants which burst out the first time I wore them, and he discovered a hole in my bran new hat. I assured him that I bought the hat that Tullahoma [Tennessee] afforded, in fact about all there was. Yet he is not quite satisfied.

I got a letter last night written Nov 12th. It got here before Mr Gilbreth. He says Jamie is the handsomest boy he ever saw. May God who has spared him to us make him good and noble. Guy was last seen by Mr Gilbreth having a fun time snow-balling. Tell Grace the leave may be near or far, papa cant tell – he only knows it is a good way home.

You will have heard about a great battle here before this reaches you. I trust all will be well. God grant that there be not many more of them. Oh, that he might be able to give us the victory & fulfill his purposes in us. The battle starts with us in reserve, probably tomorrow morning, but I have no expectancy of long remaining so. When on the eve of battle I long for a more complete reliance on God. I should like to be able to see you and Guy and Grace & Jamie and little Chancy this morning but I presume you might all cry and then the meeting would not be so happy.

Charlie is very well & so is Capt. Stinson. May a Gentle Saviour <enrobe> you with his Love, and my children all be the servants of God. Be strong in the Lord.

I enclose \$200.

Lovingly your husband  
Otis

P.S. Charlie is pleased with his present. Perry is Major in the Invalid Corps.

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2030 11/25/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1976

Chattanooga Tenn

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[418]

Chattanooga Tenn.  
Nov. 25th 1863 3-35 a.m.

Dearest,

We have passed thro the fatigues of another extended engagement. The battle began yesterday about one P.M. and has been more or less continuous. My Corps was brought over from Lookout Valley sunday afternoon. Gen Granger made yesterday what was intended as a reconnaissance in force. I was ready to support him. His troops formed as if for a drill right in plain sight of the enemy and then moved towards Missionary ridge, pressing the rebels back over a half mile. Then Gen. Grant resolved to keep what he had got. I formed on Granger's left & was engaged with skirmishers till night. Gen Sherman crossed his Command above us and got upon the crest of Missionary Ridge about four or five miles from my left. I pushed those on the river and formed a junction with him yesterday about noon. Meanwhile Gen Hooker with Geary's Div'n and some of Sherman's who could'nt get over for the breaking of the bridge & some of the guards located below, moved up the nose of Lookout Mt. following right around on to the east face, fighting & taking prisoners. We are all to take the initiation this morning at daylight. I trust a good Providence is with us this time.

I am quite well, nobody hurt on my staff. Stinson & Meysenburg had each a horse wounded while riding with me. Gens. Grant & Thomas are men of the strictest integrity & God is blessing them. I commit you & our precious children into his hands.

Lovingly your husband  
Otis

I sent you \$200 in my last.

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2031 11/28/1863 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

*To:* Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-1977

Hd Qrs 11th Corps  
Parkers Gap –near  
Ringold Georgia

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[458]

Hd Qrs 11th Corps  
Parkers Gap – near Ringold Georgia  
28th Nov / 63

Dearest,

By the divine blessing, we have had an extensive victory. Myself and Staff are well. Col Meysenburg, Maj Howard & Capt. Stinson had each a horse wounded under him. Tuesday & Wednesday a part of my Corps was engaged. Thursday I had a column, a Division being added to me - Gen. I. G. Davis – a fine officer.

Oh, how tired we have been. Charlie is almost used up, but our victory worth all our pains.

Much love to yourself and all the little ones.

Lovingly  
Otis

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2032 11/30/1863 *From:* C.H. Mulliken

*To:* Dear Friend [OO] Howard

OOH-1978

Augusta

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[341/28]

Augusta November 30th 1863  
Monday A.M.

Dear Friend Howard,

Your very welcome letter was received a few days since and although it found me at the House sick – (It is now almost five weeks since I have been out) I think I still more appreciated it. I got a very correct idea of your position & the army under Grant with your letter & plan and Colton's large Atlas, a copy of which I refer to often in connection with the movements of the army. It must have been an exciting and severe conflict when the enemy were forced from their entrenchments and driven across Lookout Creek. I felt for you all over when I read your account as I have done many times before in like stirring scenes and my prayers to our Heavenly Father have been to preserve and take care of you amid all trials and dangers for I have always felt a brothers interest in your welfare and success.

I am glad you like both Genls Grant & Thomas the former I have from the first entertained the highest respect for, and a person in his position should be above the common vices although I knew nothing of his private character before. He certainly has seemed to fill fully his illustrious predecessors position and the latest accounts confirm it. What a splendid victory, 7000 prisoners and 60 cannon taken, besides giving us the country and opening it to the benefit of the inhabitants & ourselves as well as the deprivation of it to the enemy. May this continue until the Rebels cry for peace from South Carolina to Texas. Bye the way has'nt Genl Banks done a fine thing the landing at the mouth of the Rio Grande River and the taking of Brownsville & other places as well as a large amount of Cotton at the same time it stops all that contraband trade between Texas & Mexico which has been enormous, probably more cotton smuggled off this way than all others included from every port. Then again the Loyal people of Texas I trust will flock to his support particularly if they feel confident his forces are to remain there as a protection in the future.

Well Oliver I was real glad to hear from you and wish you would write me as often as you can find time. I have been very busy the past summer & fall as business has been quite good, but Henry has been sick longer than I have and is still in the house except that at noon when it is bright & warm he rides out a short distance. Jonny goes out this A.M. to School but he has had two weeks sickness in the House, so you can judge that for the last five weeks Mrs Mulliken has had a very hard time, with us all, however she is quite nicely and wishes to be remembered to you as well as My Father Sister & dear Jonny. We often speak of you, and occasionally see Mrs Howard & the children although she is quite a home body. Remember me kindly to your Brother and believe me

Sincerely your friend  
C.H. Mulliken

P.S. I really have but little home news to write you not being out doors of course I do not hear local matters as I should if about every day. Mrs M has now gone over to your house to enquire of yours which I will add when she returns. Later - your wife & family are nicely.

Ever yours  
C.H. Mulliken  
Nov 30 1863

[Written on the last page in another hand.]  
Letter from Chas. Mulliken