Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

London, Va., June 1863.

Dear Sir,

I don't know when this will ever reach you, but I have been reading the Alexandria and Dalton R.R. We turned to the left and marched on my lines. Sunday the 3rd I was interrupted, Friday the 5th we made a bridge with help from 750. I had no help with the little team. Kept the line and marched to the place yesterday. Longstreet is retreating to Martinsville. I have just got a letter from him. We are
All well. I fear you have had much worry, for I have been for over a week without any communication. Marching and marching. God has blessed us in spite of our circumstances. May He give you more children, no constant trouble. I am nothing but a houseful of beautiful little children at Mrs. Porter's. He is away with an army at Ringtown, a strong Union man. Almost all the people of East Texas are strong, unconditional Union men. They feel to shame our Confederacy.
Major General Howard


To the Editor of the Evening Post.

Sir: In your issue of Monday last I read with equal surprise and regret an article headed "The Eleventh Army Corps and its General." In referring to its participation in the recent battle at Chattanooga, you use the following language:

"We rejoice over this redemption of the Eleventh Corps. Its disgrace was a sad thought to everybody who had the honor of our arms at heart. That the Corps is now trustworthy is proof that its demoralization was the fault not of the men themselves, but of the officers under whose command they were. We are glad that to General Hooker belongs the credit of restoring this lost corps to the confidence of the country."

You can hardly say too much in praise of Genl. Hooker, whom all loyal men regard as among the most gallant, dashing and heroic leaders of our army. But in praising Genl. Hooker there is certainly no occasion for aspiring, even indirectly, the well-earned
and brilliant fame of other officers. You seem to have entirely forgotten—you certainly failed to mention the important fact that the immediate commander of the Eleventh corps, at the time of its misfortune at Chancellorsville, and at the time of its magnificent feat of arms on the summit of Lookout Mountain, was one and the same man—Major-Genl. Abner C. Howard. In both of these battles General Howard was General Howard's superin office, and it has never been alleged that General Howard failed to obey orders in either place. I think the Evening Post is the first respectable paper that has even intimated that General Howard was at fault for the repulse of his corps at Chancellorsville. He has in his possession documents to vindicate his conduct as a military commander on that field, and may make them public when he can do so without injury to the service.

The gallant part borne by the Eleventh corps in the battle of Gettysburg is entirely ignored by you. The fierce rebel assault on Cemetery Hill—the key to Meade's position—was repulsed by Howard's command with a bravery and skill which won universal praise, and at the close of that bloody contest, the Tenth corps had fought its way to the gratitude and admiration of all loyal.
heart. The troops went to Chattanooga, therefore, man
to gallant young leader, with the glory of Gettysburg and
not the failure of Chancellorsville inscribed on its banners.
After the battle of Gettysburg, the President of the United
State was pleased to send General Howard an autograph
letter of thanks and congratulation for his consummate
generalship on that field—a letter which the young hero's
modesty has thus far kept from the public eye. And last
August, in an address before the Alumni of Watervliet Hotels,
Vice President Hendri, speaking the opinion of two of the most
gallant Generals who fought at Gettysburg, declared that
when the history of that battle should be truthfully written
the great victory would be ascribed, as far as it could be ascribed
to no man, to the heroic firmness with which Howard, with his Eleventh corps, held Longstreet Hill.
I ask this mention of this letter because General Howard's
name is dear not only to the country, but especially to his
native state, which I have the honor to represent.

He is my immediate constituent, my fellow townsman, my
friend. He has attained at thirty-three years of age, the eminent
rank of Major General, with the command of an Army corps.
He is an able, loyal, brave, Christian General, and I continue to say of
him in the language of another, that at the close of this
"...far will leave a more splendid and more a more
Stainless name."

Very Respectfully yours,

J. F. Byrne.

[Signature]

[Address]

[Date]
W.S. General Hospital, Grafton, W. Va.,
Dec 5th, 1863.

To

My dear Genl:

Will you allow me to introduce to your acquaintance my brother, M. G. Sherman, Surgeon in Charge of the 3rd Brig., Division of 4th Army Corps. He is a dear brother to me, a son of New England, and has as brave and patriotic a heart, as ever throbbed under a military uniform. Any courtesy you may extend to him, will lay me under renewed obligations, and will be as warmly appreciated, as if extended to me.

I am Genl.

Very truly, your friend,

S. W. Sherman,
Surgeon U.S. Vols.
Dear Cousin Otis,

I received a letter from my Cousin Louise last evening. She was very anxious for me to write and inquire if the 174 Indiana Reg was there. She has heard that her husband is Col of that Reg. She is going to get something. I don't think there is any use in her trying to find his whereabouts, but to please her I thought I would write to you, and when Charles writes to his Mother let him write if you can find out anything who the Col is, if it is there. I can't tell you the particulars now but when I see you I will.

I am writing this in a hurry for my little boy is getting in his high chair at my side breathing for me to take him, it is almost conference time I won't give this to your Mother to put in one of her letters to Charles. I hear from you by the way of your Mother. Oh may you both be spared to her and your dear family is my earnest prayer. When it comes good sleighing I am going to Augusta to compose babies mine has grown to be a great fat boy. I think most as big as yours, he is just as good a boy as need to be. We are having some very interesting prayer meetings four have joined the church your mother has written who they are I should like to write you a good long letter but I don't get much time to write from your Cousin Laura & Otis.
Dec 5th, 1863.

My dear Genl.:

Allow me to tender you, congratulations with the rest of your friends, on the new laurels you have won for yourself and your command, in the late battles that drove the enemy from his "strong places" on "duck out mountain," and inflicting on his panic stricken and disorganized legions, one of the deadliest blows to the Rebellion, it has received. A few more such, and the bloody drama is ended, and how can we be thankful enough, that we are permitted to be among the instruments, however humble, by which a merciful and just God is so palpably
making" the wrath of man to praise Him."

Please accept for yourself, your Brother, Capt. Atwood, and any one on your staff whose acquaintance it has been my happiness to have, my highest consideration and kind wishes. My earnest prayers for your safety, success, and happiness, you will always have.

To Maj. General Most truly,

O.P. Howard, com.

Your Friend

march 15th Army Corps.

S.R. Sherman. Aug 25th

Army of the Cumberland.

In Charge.
Washington, D.C. Dec 6, 1863

My dear Cousin Lorrie,

I am much

mournful that so long a time has elapsed after my last pleasant visit with you, and I am not better. Because one day from one it seems that there has been a perfect accident about my health since I last saw you. Meas has said how to do you will write, and I truly intend, but this time has gone and I really believe in the school in the present situation. The first simply after I left you I feel so very well and I am happy after that day came an after. We have found a new home and we are very pleasantly situated. Our soon is the fourth day and all is well, and I am very happy. Our meals are hard, we have been starved. I like it much better than our thoughts I could.

Dr. Hill

332 E. 1st Street

3-1-1863
April 22, 1863. But I would like to have a real home, but as military men we can take cut-ups where I am going to try and the change. Peace was very

patriotic in getting into the Corinical Corps. The is for the present in charge of

the Super department, so is not very much in front. He is a tall, but is very self

sufficient. Just looking his old strength up, a few days since, he got this letter, I

have just read it out to see if there is anything of interest I could report to you.

But that seems to be nothing, but that went

into all the Co. must have been

pleasing with you. He wrote a P. O. & say he

thought he could not get any mail. Not

grand that we have been over such lands.

I think we have been without mail since

Corinth, where the war is certainly

acknowledged, to be the heart of the grand

battle. Mrs. Jones has just come in and

didn’t me to give you much love. She

is the only body secretary I have. She

is quite nice and comes in quite often. This

is very pleasant. The short of every to

be the Cook this afternoon.

The weather is delightful here, so

handy write back. I can’t realize I can

be cold any where. That’s a got to save oars

in don’t cut done. Now is bitter January

the other, the right place face. I have often

thought of, Children and you to begin to

think of Christmas. There is a very fine

to try your. And I have been in some

kinds and the Grace I saw a beautiful

roll in a crowd that by looking the

would open its ge-views of its-lands

bit up-and then open the-land, the

mouth which was big where tech

and my friend Mr. and Mrs. and

Papa, is home as I can.” I thought.
you at any time, should you feel disposed to write, as there is no commander with whom I ever served that I remember with more pleasure than you.

My kindest regards to your Brother C. B. Ballard et al. Very faithfully,

George B. Orthwille
Cptt 1St Co. 11Th Regt.

P.S. Should you ever want a corp C. S. don't forget that I am next on the socket — 4.

Headquarters Second Brigade,
Second Division, Second Corps,

Dec. 9th 1863

My Dear General,

I cannot resist the temptation to compliment you on the success which has attended your corps in the war. You certainly have very many friends in your old command who like me are gratified at the victory which has crowned the gallant fighting of your corps the 11th Corp. while under your leadership.

Your army I fear will have the glory of having struck the fatal blow to the rebellion. The country seems to have lost confidence in our army, whether justly or unjustly, I cannot say.
We have of late met with very little success. We crossed the Rapid Anne the other day, but to no cross — there seems to be a rumor that Gen. Meade will be relieved. In case this is true, I wonder who is to be sacrificed next? I heard a very distinguished man high in power in the Government say that if you were out due the credits of Gettysburg and if you were here, you would be his choice for the command. You may feel thankful you are not here, lest some such misfortune might overtake you.

The 12th Division remains about as of old — Col. Deveraux of the 19th Mass. Command.

Our brigade, Col. Baxter 72nd Col. Monarch 106th the 1st and 3rd Brigade, Brig. Gen. Webb the Division and Maj. Gen. Warren the Corps. Gen. Hancock arrived in Washington last week and is expected here every day. There are but few changes Col. Heath 19th Maine has replaced Col. Hesser 72nd. Some others killed or wounded whom you would know but whose names you will read in the papers.

I see that you must have been under heavy fire in your last fight. From the way the bullets handled the horses of your staff officers I should be glad to hear from you.

Dear [Name],

We have returned from Carinville where I last wrote an aught. I sent a letter to you. I should wonder if you had more news from me. I hope you have heard much from me. I have been from you ever since and on Thursday was convenient. We were camp for two weeks without any communications whatsoever. I am now waiting on the country.

We ran the war in the July, ship舵 the state and have got on very well. I wish we could get when there was some sort of chance.

This fall, Carin is a beautiful
country. I saw the house of a few miles. It was a beautiful old place and one about seven years ago in which a lady in my name. Mrs. B. is a complete lady. Very wealthy and all our Union people knew her much love to buy. How is E. Anson? I think about your lunch. Come for the end of the week. I hope you can send word to me. I am going to cold and say. Here is a piece of news from Washington. This
H. H. Mr. 11th Corps, Enochally.
Dec. 17th 1863

Dear Sir,

Last night we returned to the old camp. After fighting a three day battle and marching immediately through two hundred and forty (240) miles. Much of the time we were hung up from all train connection. I got a good letter from you last night right stop out. You can go from a book. I wish you had some of the yellow rest that follow in out of slavery. Am wanted to work for us yesterday, but I am afraid you have not a constitution sufficiently strong for the work that these poor people can rear in. You talk of bounding. Bounding distress two things the poverty of the home. If you can stick there till I can come to you, you shall find better there to know that.
you an errand. When you go to the
last house you remember your independ-
ent hostess, the children. I think
Miss Maine would be a fine friend
to help you in the purchase or renting
of a good house. I cannot bear the
thought of pulling up stakes & leaving
Maine and beginning anew for I feel
secure in the friendships & appreciation
of a large number of our best citizens.
I am sure pleased to return in my good
name. Mr. Maine has written an article
for the Evening Post. Too flattering to
me, but a genuine & hearty defense of
my part and I feel very grateful. Our
school friends in Maine are better than
elsewhere. I thank you. I might come
next on a visit and bring Jamie or the baby
if you will give me a bit of the way to pitch
you. What do you think of it? It is uncertain
whether I could get it. Any how I need you
and I am hoping something will turn up
to give us place here from the end of this
winter. I might resign I know Mr.
field, but I cannot make it seem
consistent with my duty so to do.
They staff an all dependent on me &
I would be thrown out of service.
However, we shall see. Meanwhile
work & success is a great thing for
the general result, for it helps the
army fighting upon the battlefields of Virginia
in which the Western armies are doing
their necessary work. I am with a large
people. She will return her duties some-
how much love to you. I write
and am encamped 5 miles to Orleans. Miss
letter I got at Collected. I will soon write
triumph with my steno. I went up.
A good
country to a fine people. Mr. Lincoln
appears from many houses.
I think it was a look for a New Camp
and tells you... As for...
Alito
Men's Reh. Dept. of the Train.
Chattanooga, Dec 18, 1863.

May Genl. Crookman,
(Head 11th Corps).

Dear General:

At the end of this letter I speak of the services and bravery of my men. I cannot bring myself to the pain to express my deep sense of respect and esteem for you. I had known you by reputation, but I missed the opportunity.

On that campaign for me to appear to make the right and perfect the public's Christian gentleman, and the prompt, true son, and Galen's Johnson. I am
Not in the habit of flattering, but I have deemed it my duty to express
my sentiments to you. I have been fortunate in being
acquainted with you in our late and
most perilous campaign. Not only
this, but your whole character
appears to be of a spirit of
Chevalier that was reflected in
the conduct and bearing of your
own Command. I hope you will
never cease to be the same, but
wishing the same success to your
person and office as respects
almost Fortune high or together
again in any capacity. I shall never
forget your most intimate and
honest

to hear you.

H. T. Chase

May 23rd.
Headquarters, Dept. of the Tennessee
Chattanooga, Nov. 10th, 1863

Major Genl. O. O. Howard
Comdg 11th Corps

Dear General,

As the events of war brought us together and have as suddenly parted us, I cannot deny myself the pleasure it gives me to express to you the deep personal respect I entertain for you. I had known you by reputation, but it needed the opportunity our short campaign gave me to appreciate one who mingleth so gracefully and perfectly the polished Christian gentleman and the prompt, zealous and gallant soldier. I am not in the habit of flattering, but I have deemed it my duty to express to Genl. Grant and others on whom I confide not only the satisfaction but the great pleasure I experienced in being associated with you in our last short but most brilliant campaign. Not only did you do all that circumstances required, but you did it in a spirit of cheerfulness that was reflected in the conduct and behavior of your whole command. I beg you will convey to Genl. Schurz, Col. Burchett and all your officers the assurance of my personal and official respect.

Should fortune bring us together again in any capacity I will deem myself most fortunate and should it ever be in my power to serve you, I beg you will unhesitatingly call on me as a friend.

With great respect,

Your friend,

W. T. Sherman
Major General
Head Qrs. Dept of the Tenn.
Chattanooga, Dec. 18, 1863.

Maj. Gen'l O. O. Howard,
Com'd 11th Corps.

Dear General:

As the events of War brought us together and have as suddenly parted us, I cannot deny myself the pleasure it gives me to express to you the deep personal respect I entertain for you. I had known you by reputation, but it needed the opportunity our short campaign gave me to appreciate one who mingles so gracefully and perfectly the polished Christian gentleman and the prompt, zealous and gallant soldier. I am not in the habit of flattering, but I have deemed it my duty to express to Gen'l Grant and others in whom I confide not only the satisfaction but the great pleasure I experienced in being associated with you in our late short but most fruitful campaign. Not only did you do all that circumstances required, but you did it in a spirit of cheerfulness that was reflected in the conduct and behavior of your whole command. I beg you will convey to Gen'l Schurz, Col. Rushbeck and all your officers the assurance of my personal and official respect.

Should Fortune bring us together again in any capacity, I will deem myself most fortunate, and should it ever be in my power to serve you, I beg you will unhesitatingly call on me as a friend.

With great respect

Your friend,

(Signed) W. T. Sherman
Dear Mr. Captain of the Force,

On the occasion of the passing of our beloved General, I am writing to express my sincere condolences. The loss of such a great leader will be deeply felt by all who knew him.

I hope you find this message as a testament to General's legacy. He was not only a leader but also a role model for us. His dedication to duty and his commitment to the welfare of the soldiers were unparalleled.

I wish to extend my heartfelt sympathy to your family and the entire Force on this occasion. May General rest in peace.

With deepest respect,

John Smith
Headquarters Eleventh Corp.

Sackets Bay Dec. 10th 1863

Dear: It is sort of unsatisfactory to write letters when one feels a strong inclination to go home. I have meditated on several propositions like those to go above making the journey in 7 days or 9 days which amounting 6 days at home objection. I might put 3 months to take more time in route. Comment not in condition to learn for three a visit at least - don't like to come back. Another perfection for wife P. I only to meet me in New York and go to West Point spending 10 days there. Objection. Too cold waiting for winter baby. Would want to hear from home. Would want to see the other children, only one. Ours - Well I think we will write and
Tuesday reached Harrisburg. Marched 13 or 14 miles to new Albany. Wednesday 23 miles.

Monday 9 miles. Friday night reached wagon bridge at 6 am and built 150 foot long bridge from town and wagon bridge to Harrisburg 1/2 miles. Sunday unarmed voluntary with 4 went on to Harrisville from 13 to 15 miles.

Monday we turned back and marched leisurely back to foot of Valley. Having fought 3 days and marched some 240 miles. More than half the men been suffering no shoes or no blankets to them. Nobody would complain but they would shew me their line from mid west feet to 3 feet. We are now giving them more Rebel food is here any in their country. I feel much grateful.
Chattanooga, October 31st

My dear General,

In ancient times, before the invention of letters, our barbarous ancestors raised upon the battlefields even the spoils of war, tumulus of earth or volumes of stone, which have adorned the locations of the conflicts they are intended to commemorate.

We have fought about battle, one which makes an epoch in the history of not only the United States, but of that almost eternal and intransitive good and evil between liberty and slavery of which our war is the latest and greatest act.

I wish to see some monument erected upon the battlefield, and it seems to me that the point of Lookout Mountain is a site on which the Salem artificial structure is of sufficient size to be seen at a distance will have a striking effect.

I have sketched a monument little removed in its scale simplicity from the ruins which dot the ridges of Germany and Northern Europe, but containing a subterranean chamber, which, by diminishing the quantity of material, diminishes the labor of erection and will form a framework, in which, at some future day, it is probable that the bones of those who lie buried on the mountain would be collected—there appears to be a point of honor for the heroes. Could not the 11th and 13th Corps erect their monument on the field of their valor—in commemoration of their great exploit and of their comrades who gave their lives for their country.
Include a sketch - the room is sixty four feet square at base - main 57 feet high - the blocks are 17 feet square - the floor is 30 feet high - the columns 12 feet diameter at base & 20 feet high - the vault is a dome, circular in plan - 30 feet in diameter - the walls to be built of astiloses of moderate size - laid with mortar horizontal, except the lining of the vault which should be built as well - are walled up, with radial joints lubricated with small square shaped stones.

I would erect a large slab of clessidra in the corner of the dome inscribed

"Errected by the 11'th and 12'th Corps of the Army of the U.S. in memory of their comrades who fell in the storming of Kootenay Mountain and Missionary Ridge on the 27th 28'th & 29'th November 1863.

I would place it on the flat rock at the S'E point of the summit of Kootenay and encasing the letters would be a sculpture in large letters three feet long - "Stormed by the Army of the United States 27th November 1863.

Would your Corps inter upon such a task with spirit - I hope they will.

Truly your sincere

[Signature]

To

Major Genl. C.C. Howerd

Comdgy 11'th Corps.
Date, Dec. 25th 1863
Read, Dec. 24

Letter from Gen. Meigs
Concerning
Monument on Lookout

Chattanooga, Dec. 28, 1863

Remarks:
In ancient times, before the invention of paper, our ancestors communicated upon the battle field, where decided the fate of nations, through oral annals, and by the headstrong of the combatants. They were intended to commemorate the brave fighting and valor of the northern combatants. In this great battle, nine times out of ten, the northern forces were the victors. The southern forces were mainly composed of the 6th and 7th divisions, between which there existed intense rivalry. Many of the southern troops were in the stacks and trenches, each.

I wish to see some monument erected upon the battle field and a hero from the front of Norfield and Loomes in a pile on which the monument shall stand above its influence; the scene of the battle and how it was carried on not only shall be witnessed but also how it was carried on not only shall be witnessed and also how it was carried on.
Memorial built erected at the site

For the men who died during the

Civil War in the defense of the

Northern States. It is a monument

to the memory of those who gave their all

for their country.

I would place it at the

foot of the mountain

where the Union

forces were defeated in

the Battle of Gettysburg on July 2, 1863.

I wish you all the best of fortune

and may the Lord bless you with

health and happiness.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
Headquarters Eleventh Corps.

Fort Hunt, Valley Dec. 13, 1862

Dear Sir:—I must confess to you that I have got a sticky tent. My house
smelled so badly that I have had it
burned down and it is now rebuilding.
I have moved into another tent tempos-
arily and first of my sorrow that this
smokes too, so that I have to keep the
painted up. This is very excite for not
waiting for a day or two. Goldsmith
in from Nashville tomorrow.

I want to send just a note by him
to say that I am quite well 7th in
Philadelphia. Hope you are. Lillian.
every thing is now very quiet.
Bought some [illegible] week before they
helped me very much. We are
hoping that no disaster
may befall us in the vicinity
of Vienna or by Longstreet turning
back. Joan Foster has quite
been a pretty large force
and it will be hard to drive
Longstreet and perhaps burn
with go up the river quickly soon.

I hope the children are well tonight.
The weather must be getting quite
cold by now. This time six months.
It is pretty cold they forgets very

I have a most excellent cook a
victual woman who has two little
children and is staying in a tent.
She wants to earn something to
take her heart. I wish you had her.
She seems like a good woman. I have
a man over our mess and he brings
this woman. They call Mrs. Pearson,
Mrs. Pearson, Mrs. Hayes and
Mrs. Dobbins to help with us. We still
eat in a cold tent but are leaving a
place fenced half house half tent
hein much love to each of you little
men. I trust you all

Yours truly
Oct 31
To take you home some day my daughter
with Mamma - Jay - Jane and
Aroncy. Looking mountain will some
day be a place of great interest and
frequented resort. "Men is a fine little
bouncy cal" with a familiar call.

Sammamish town. Probably called so
because people went thither from the
host cities to spend the Sammamish.

You must give a great deal of love
to Jay - has he improved much in
reading and writing since he left your
school? And Janie - can she still "his self"
long enough to think about John and his
absent papa? Does the baby grow? Can he
talk any yet? And how is dear Mamma
very healthy and happy and well working for
all the children and for papa far away!
I feel glad you are a good girl - glad you
remember the verse "love one another"
you expect you know its meaning
May our kind and loving families
Hath you love you all in this holy
keeping. Your affectionate father
& mother

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

Lookout Valley Oct. 26th 1863

My dear little daughter,

I think I wrote
buy last, at any rate I received a letter from
you last. I don't remember when I got
one from hung it is so long ago.

Papa has just built a new house built
one that it has taken three days and
ever half of Christain to finish. I
think my house is now quite as big as
Mammas paller. My new chimney not being
high enough was topped off with a box. Just
now the box caught fire and if John had not
put it out very quickly my whole house

Hath to have you all in this holy
keeping. Your affectionate father
& mother.
would have been on fire. John fell off the burning box, but now my new house is full of smoke. Perhaps a kind Heavenly Father don’t want your paper to find too much comfort away from his home. Yesterday was Christmas you would have written me a nice Christmas if I had been at home and who knows but you and they would have made me a Christmas present. Which do you like best to make presents or to receive them? Yesterday Uncle Mathew, Mr. Meek, Mr. Hubbard and Dr. Buckley went up to the top of lookout Mountain. This is a very high mountain 1400 feet above the surface of the river. You can see from the northern points into five different states. I am told - Tennessee, Alabama, N. Carolina and Georgia. And I do not know whether the other state is Kentucky or South Carolina. Chattanooga with its houses and tents and soldiers tents is spread out before you. The beautiful serpent like river the Tennessee runs at your feet and as far as you can see it twists along in the valleys. You can look at Mission Ridge all along where the battle was. You can see grape parmesan camp. Two steamboats came in right several miles apart on the river while we were gazing. I hope
Headquarters 11th Corps
Lookout Valley December 17th 1863
Behind Chickamauga

Dear Mother: I intended to write you on Christmas Eve, but my head and voice rendered it absolutely impossible to get up and spend into another day belonging to the Christmas while among so heavy work. My voice had been rasped down Wednesday and I  prolonged to my sorrow that my singing above had been little superior to the other one and I wrote without comfort. Your little one still I hope to wish I have reserved for my new house. In a corner of one room the side is a door through the wall placing the chimney and stoking the wood from the clothing boxes. The floor is a little like polite work for a cotton-covered called furniture without the face. We placed a stool into the upper part of the gable and I seated upon it a little while as I do to keep from thinking. It might interest you to know how we made one. My house is much superior to that of the inhabitants in this valley. I mean no more but a dirt stove and steel chairs. So that you see how comfortably you are for the winter. I think the weather is quiet as cold here as in Virginia and we haven't seen any snow yet. I take it great for granted because I have described to you the events of interest in our long march to the vicinity of McMinnville and back. So I thought it might be of interest to you.
To many each member of our staff and attempt his duties conscientiously. Goldsborough as a callaire is a fancied historian, an expert and hardy of staff. You will have seen or taken

conferences. We are convinced about using black hair and a piercing

lookage, very recommended in his style of speaking. We can just beady detect the foreign in his accent. He is short, rugged

and constant in the discharge of his military duties and

wears the very much. We think of him when he re

him do so. The same allows very much attached to him.

Gen. Meagher is my Adjutant General. He keeps

an office with several clerks, records all orders

received and reaches our orders to sent up from them

motions from the Division. He is a little taller than

I, has dark brown hair, a high, broad, clean forehead.

He is thin, quiet, dignified, in a good German and

English scholar. He is about 80 yrs of age. Gen. Col.

Baldwin, my correspondency, looks about 100 yrs, has a stoop in

his shoulders and a long face, very long. But he is the worst

joint, companionable kind, rough gentleman born in

America, you can see. Gen. Col. Hayes, my Quartermaster,

was an old college friend of Beauregard in the West

Carolina, in 1843. He was a captain with the rank of

brigadier in the 2nd Div. 2nd Corps. Recently I have

heard from the post of his son. He is about 90 yrs old. A little
civilian physician.

We have brown hair and blue eyes, talk little. Gives you the

impression of a fine, thoughtful man. Maj. Howard, my

first aid in camp, with his fine brown hair, red and

whiskers, and quiet face will impress without an

introduction. Capt. Rittenhouse is about as tall as the Major. A

sturdy compatriot, steady built, with a long face. He has a

clean blue eye and the stamp of intelligence and

independence in his face. He has a slight lip, or inflection in speech,

particularly in pronouncing the word horse, dropping the r.

Capt. Daniel Cope takes the place of Lloyd Miller, who

wrote whilst at Gettysburg. He came in with Col. Hayes, and is

a handsome young man of a choked face, good black hair,

tall, and a cheerful expression. Always very

brought the action. Capt. Pearson is called foreman

of hunting the muskets, and next all officers I

ain. The Quartermaster at the corps. He is a regular

officer of the 11th Infantry. A young man about 35,

of a solid look, thoughtful, quiet, easy and respectful,

generally serious. He is very jealous in action. Lieut. Gibbes,

whom often lives in Augusta, is an active boy of Congo.

Capt. Westfall, a black uniform, black eyes, black complexion,

black coat, looks very much soldierly.12 young men to

give names. Their officers constitute the staff when

you have added two fine young men of the Medical

Department. Surgeon Brown, looks likely 25. He a
Harrington Dec. 30/63

My dear Brother,

I received very

thankfully your good long Christmas letter. It was

the best of presents. I have

read all the pictures you gave

Elia and Elsie. I came home

up in the sitting room and had

Old Mor's child here at Bath.

He is now quite well of alegue

and is a great "comfort." I

am glad Chasler is going

to Washington. I hope

it will be so that he can

come on to Maine with you.

Now I want you to come

and see us if you possibly

can and to please it I

want you to give your lecture

here. Come to Leeds. I take

Mother along the next day
At 22 32 and then
Mother Ella I can hear
your lecture on us all
very much wish to do. Will
you come ? Tell Harry to write
me "yes" if you cant time
and I will arrange every-
thing else. We have no spe-
cial appointment you cannot get much
way, but you must change
there the mine or the big places
all our people would be delighted
it hear you and it would
help me to do good to have them
at 32. Name the night if
you can, if not now, do
it when you can = I give
my lecture on "A Lake Trip
With the Lethie " at Bath Jan.
3 t/2h. I am sure you
will understand
that he cant always bully.
Here comes Sally with "Hi."

Are you writing to Uncle Bob. 

"Let's see, what can I say to him? all his children?"

Tell him I'm got a gun. I hope just like a big gun & a brand new. 

Shaped just like a big gun & a brand new.

I am sorry if I was in discreet in my observations in Gen. Lee's presence. He seems to have as much vanity & ambition as the rest of us.

He has sent me three or four papers with the best of his best work. Marked on each:

I read your report with great interest. I thought it he would be disappointed, not to be praised more than he is used to it. So I think didn't write the Independent article. I wish you could see the letter I wrote Webb about it. Your report will commend itself to the your sense of the
people and ask not to impair their confidence in you. I am looking forward to an entire reorganization here. The Bureau was long left behind this morning & expects to be 25% in Washington with us soon by Friday a lot of next week (Jan. 5th or 6th). He received his orders from the Secretary of the Navy from you also. I hope he will do well. I & all his dear wife conscience to guide him in his work, as I think he is well disposed to do. I went down to Leeds Tuesday. Mother was getting on well with one of her deceased family. She & I think of having some keep lively in the kitchen & you to hire his wife to do all. The needs done especially get washing &c. I wish the love this.
I am about 80, vol. 9, in all, of them very useful to me, & vitally valuable. I judge the whole to match the 26/8, at least 2 the @ page. The practice, but 14.10 = I am reading Dr. Spencer's Lessons 2 de RECEIVING LECTURES & taking, with great Interest.

With the gratitude to the unknown donor = Alice will come back with Ella = Political meeting is not nearly as big as last year the meetings. As usual held a party at the evening. I would like to hear you speak.

A man in Temple the other night said with regard to your promotion a man said: Hooker inglés not to get mad, we can't all like Daniel Webster. Thousands of your activities...
In Marine leave no doubt as to your competency to command the armies of the world. With a great deal of love to Celia and God's blessing on you both.

Your loving brother,

[Signature]

[Note: The handwriting is faint and the last name is illegible.]
Caiety Stem says our of door: “now ain't it!”
We hav'nt got into the sunny south yet.
For it froze, it blows, it rains and snow,
it snows. You can't think how cold John's hands
are in the morning when he understands
to roll up my sleeves. I must make as much
frost as I can do when you wash his face in
cold water. It freezes John. It is now five
minutes after 12. the old year out and
the New Year in. I wish you and all
the little dearful sleeping became a very
happy New Year. One love we will
remember and be privy to each other till we
meet in better ways. May we always
be able to become a lively sense of a
mutual bond customary blessings and
the best of them this New Year. Our Sincerely,
Lovingly- Otis

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

Leetown Valley Dec. 31 1863

Dear Sir:--I have now had my chimney rebuilt
the third time and have attained a perfect smoke.
I now have a large fireplace that affords me a warm
fire and does not keep my eyes and lungs filled
with smoke. Today I have dressed all day and into
the night and for much of the time in a
heavy rain. I went to Whitesides and back the
roads are almost as bad as they are in Maine in
the early Spring when the first is just coming
out of the ground. Harry Simon and Col. Brighty
of the 143 M. accompanied me also two ordnance.
We went to see about getting an engine across
the Falls-water bridge at Whitesides. The workman
of wisdom. I speak to thee in confidence, in thy relations official, in those between man and man in those of family. Remember thy shortcomings and do better. Beating in office, a violent tongue in social sphere, and more effort for the comfort and welfare of the beloved at home. "May not they envout with God Good Bye?" May we not hope that this evening you will bring us peace and love and peace! I have a beautiful ruth off our first hand, our camp, executed by one of Maj. Hoffman's clerks. I cannot spell his name without notes or persons is with them. You can get a photographic copy of you think best and send one to mother and another to New York. The picture is perfect, down to the details.
My dear boy - I have just finished a letter to Lucie and now your turn comes.

It is a very rainy night. When it rains here the mud gets deep so that you can scarcely walk. We have a very large two-pound land dog at these Head Quarters, by the name of "Lookout". He generally keeps very quiet with his big head and shaggy tail, but he sometimes gets his jolly black back up and looks ill-favored strangers in the face. He is much like an Irishman: he don't like the negroes, but on the whole he is good—
maternal, looks you in the face like a sensible boy and pronto wags his tail. "The little foxes (boys) are still running about amusing themselves, not by washing their face, as you might suppose at first sight, but by setting fire to tall stumps of trees at the bottom. These burn two or three days and as many nights. When people clear a piece of land in this country for corn or for cotton, they do not cut the trees. I draw off the wood but they girdle them. That is, they cut a circular incision quite around the tree so that the tree dies, the roots decay and the plough can be drawn amongst.
them with very little obstruction. The people
in Lookout Valley are generally very poor
and all the children without any exception
an ignorant and very dirty. It was not so
in East Tennessee. The people there were
intelligent, the boys and girls had “chances” to
go to school and often washed their very
eeaters. I got acquainted with little Walter Brown,
miles at Knoxville, Henry Heeney at Madison.
Mary Bridges at Athens. Mary Sheldon at Sweetwater.
Mary J. Martin and Novace Foster at
Louisville. I Kennedey. These children were
all between you, I family as to age
and I talked with them about you all
and showed them your pictures. They were
Moreover Union children and young "Yankee soldiers" as they call us and also the clear old flag of our country which the rebels hate so. I am glad you and mamma and the other children live so far from the armies. Poor poor children have to see the rebel armies encamping on their parents' farms, destroying fences, eating up the corn. I wish ours have to follow. Much Chasley sends his love to Gay, Grace and Janice. Are you all glad that Isabella has come back to live with you? Is mamma still ill the cough. Tell her John is now doing the new shirts she needs. They are splendid. Splendid.

How can we pray for all she does for us day! You must tell me about your studying. Are you a good reader yet? and can you spell well! Now I must go to bed under my annunciation. The rain is gathering over my canvas roof, sing me to sleep. The Saviour loves you Gay. His blessing cue when you lay your son.
Mrs. Jane Howard
[Cca. Dec. 1863]

Dear Madame

Mrs. Brownside

is to be here to-day. I enclose
such for him with. It he agree,
able to you receive a call from
him according by receipt of let-
the afternoon or early in the
writing? — I do not know how
much time will be consumed
by fore that a change be the
the bearer. — Please had
by word of mouth by the bearer.

Yours sincerely
Jane Henry
Frederick Monday Eve
23 December 1863

Mrs Howard

Please to lay your

hand when he gets home we

have concluded to name

our little son Otis Howard

Rawson. We have enlisted

24 of our quota up to 9 o'clock.

Hope you had a pleasant ride

home. Your visit here will long

be remembered—Yours Truly

John Rawson