No 1. Bulfinch Place
Boston. Feb. 2d
[1864]

Dear Gamal
and brother,

I did not try to crowd up and tell you how happy, & (Evangelically) proud we of Maine — & of America — were last Evening

I sent you the "Advertiser" notice, & shall make one for the N. York Observer.

Now a word of my work, and the important aid I desire in it,

which no one can
give as well as
yourself. So thought
more than one
of our Board,
who said, last Eng
"Can we not
have an editorial
from him?" —

Our recommend,
as you will see —
from our Circular,
is moral, and
Especially Christian
— not ignoring
still less suppressing
the law work on
the various "Orders";
— but yet striving
to bring in the
respectable religious
people, who
are tired of Temperance-
-fooling,

— afraid of "Secret Societies" — and doubtful about "Prohibition" — We use the Sabbath freely and without reproach for Gospel Ordinance sermons, social prayer-meeting Sabbath Evenings at which thousands of people have been taken.

Now we are about commencing a course of discourses, Sabbath-evenings, from — on a blank pastors, — and it will

encourage them, &
give us pleasing
before the people
to precede them
by an address
from one who
the people, so
much delight
to hear.

It need not
be elaborate, or
a lecture at a
— but some
remarks and
illustrations, concerning Midnight

perfect abstinence & safety, as I am could give by the hour.

— You shall not do it "for nought" — in any sense.

Will you be kind enough to send me at once the dates of your engagements here, & mention one or more evenings, Sabbaths or other, from which we may select, so as to secure in season?

I also wish to arrange for my

soon to come from
Exeter, N. H.
while you are
there.

Remember, dear
Sir, with best
regards to you
& all your

Truly & faithfully
& brotherly in
our Lord

J. W. Chickering

Belbidere Delaware and Flemington Railroads.

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER AND SUPERINTENDENT,

Lambertville, N. J. Feb. 4th 1864

Maj. Gen Howard

Dear Sir - Pardon a Stranger for expressing to you the very great satisfaction felt in listening to your address at the Academy of Music in Phila. last week, and my sympathy with one who is standing up so faithfully in Our Master's service. My wife, who also heard you, has had full liberty to adore the defenders of our flag, ever since it was assailed, and therefore the enclosed will not perhaps seem out of place to one of its Christian defenders. You may possibly remember my introducing myself to you as a "Jersyman" before the meeting in Phila. I recall the circumstance

In order to refer again to my brother-in-law Surgeon Riley of the 38th N.J.V. He is the husband of a beloved and praying sister, and is himself a professor of religion, but I fear has not mastered fully the idea of honoring God in all his ways, and is not very spiritual in his religion - As he has expressed to me a special respect for yourself, you will pardon me, I think, for stating these facts, and suggesting that possibly it may fall in your way to bring to bear upon him the influence of your character, and thus benefit his own soul as well as those under him. It would be a great source of thankfulness to me if he should be led to see his duty and to work for the Savior in the position he holds, which gives him many opportunities of doing good.

Please, Sir, accept the assurance that our prayers shall ascend to our Heavenly Father for his blessing upon you and upon your efforts to honor him.

Yours Respectfully

J. A. Anderson

I may add that possibly Surgeon Riley might not be pleased to know that I have communicated with you in his behalf -

Board of Examination for Officers
of Invalid Corps Co. 1st R. & Rn. M.
Washington D.C. Feby. 4th 1864

General

Mr. Haskell Adjt. of the 19th Me, is desirous of obtaining a position on your staff, & cheerfully recommend him as an excellent officer for staff duty. He is intelligent industrious and true. He was of great assistance to me while I commanded that Regmt. and during the short time I was in command of the Brigade, he was my A. A. Adjt. Genl. and served me very acceptably. He was subsequently with Col. Heath at Brigade Headqrs. Col. Heath speaks of him in high terms.

I know that Mr. Haskell has a strong personal attachment for you, and I am confident he would serve faithfully on your staff.

If you have a position for him

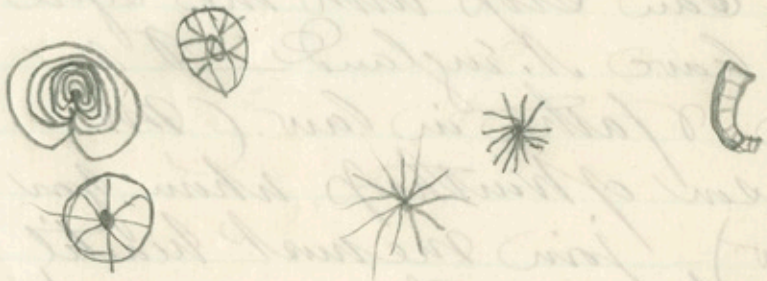
I hope that it may agreable for you to see him. For the interest I have always felt in Mr. H. I would like to have him under your influence as a personal benefit to him.

I am Genl. Very respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
F. Dilworth
Col. 3d. Regt. Gen. Corps.

Wenham, Mass.
Feb. 6. 1864

My dear Howard

I see by the papers th. you are home on a short furlough among yr. friends. I wd like very much to see you – we have not met since the war began – we cd have lots of talk abt. old college days – as well as abt. the affairs of the times. I cannot get to Maine, now – & so why can't you stop here overnight (& day too) on yr. return to Tennessee? I do not know at what time you go back – but if you come to Boston over the Eastern R.R. you come thro' our place, & we shd give you a hearty



welcome. Wenham is 20 miles out of Boston — a quiet village, where you cd take a day of rest before returning to the field. I will meet you at any train you mention. If you cd only spare a single night you cd get here in the eve'g train fr. Portland & then reach Boston at 9 3/4 the next morning, so as to have the whole day before you there. If Mrs. Howard returns with you any part of the way — we shd be right glad to welcome her with you. I will make you both comfortable.

I feel rejoiced at yr. success with the Eleventh Corps — & I doubt not you will always look back with pleasure to the part you took in these struggles.

Jack Chamberlain you know has long been in the army. I met him, last Commencement — & all my old fever for the army revived. I have wanted to go ever since the 12th April '61 — but my parish & family have prevented. — If you can possibly spare the time, I hope you can stop with me before you leave N. England — & my wife — & father in law (Mr. Benson of Winthrop, whom you know) — join me most heartily in the request.

With respects to yr. family —

Affectionately yr. friend & classmate

R. S. Sewall

Hd. Qrs. 19th Maine Vols
(near) Stevensburg. Va
February 9th 1864.

General:

I have the honor to enclose herewith a letter from Col. Sewall -
I have made this application with hesitation not knowing your wishes in such matters but trust that I may not be misunderstood
I should be glad to be with you in any position, General, that you may wish. I have tried to do my duty faithfully and to honor the commission that you gave me
I also enclose a statement from Capt. Fogler, commdg: the three Field Officers are now in Maine on Conscript and recruiting service - I hope I may yet be with you if not - I shall try General, to be ever worthy of your former kindness to me
I am General. Very Respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
Francis W. Haskell
Lt. & Adjt. 19th Maine Vols

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard.
Augusta.
Maine.

Washington D.C. Feb. 9. 1864

Maj. Gen. O. Howard

Dear Sir

I am engaged in preparing a large general view of the "Gettysburg Battle field" The scenery, representing some twenty five square miles is completed, I am now engaged in locating the positions of the troops. I returned yesterday from the Army of the Potomac, every Regt. of which I have now located on my drawing. I should like very much to see you before I pronounce it completed and will visit you a week from today, or any other day near that date if you will write me where you can be seen. As I do not know your address I send this to the care

470.

of your State Adj. General.

I am Sir

Yours with Respect

Jno. E. Bachelder.

address 125 Washington St

Boston Mass

May his power still protect you, his counsel guide you. His the comforts of his Spirit be with you. Make my kindest regards to your Brother when you see him

With great respect
Yours most truly
Geo. Shepard

Bangor Feb 10, 1864

Gen. O. O. Howard.
My Dear Sir,

Will you excuse me if I state to you in general the facts about the endowing of our Theol. Seminary. I have been here, connected with it, twenty seven years: in all that time struggling with poverty:- Nineteen years ago, I was called to a pulpit in Brooklyn N.Y. where my salary would have been $5000, I remained here on $1000. for the sake of the good cause in Maine.

But now there has come some success to the Seminary in getting fund to live on. The greatest success has been in connection with this Bill. In returning from the West last fall, where I went to lecture for the Am. Pub.

scribed, each $10.000 - another gave $10.000 in his Will - another $3000 - another Gentleman in Ky $6.000 - all this in large sums with the year: then a great many smaller gifts - from $500. down to $100. The result is that we are getting towards the end of a complete endowment.

I state this to you, knowing you will rejoice in it, and that you may communicate the facts to your brother Charles: and still further, that if you or he would, at any time, deem it a privilege, to drive in a nail, or lay a stone in our foundation, you might know the state of the case - and be assured it would do good.

I have had to stoop to the humiliation of begging for this object the last year - a sort of crucifixion it has been to me - but some duties not pleasant have to be done.

I hardly know that I proceed with propriety in at all bringing this matter before your mind - as you and your brother have the higher sacrifices to make; if not, you will pardon me -

I regret that I failed to see you on Monday when I called at your house; and I intended to call again.

I have followed you in your course with admiration at the moral courage, as well as the other - you have shown. - have thanked God for the pre-eminent service He has enabled you to render your country.

Head Qrs. 19th Maine Vols.
Near Stevensburg, Va.
February 10th, 1864.

General,

The object of this note is to call your attention to the merits of Lt. F. M. Haskell, Adjt. of this regiment who is desirous of securing a position on your staff whenever a vacancy occurs.

Lt. Haskell has been Adjt. of this regiment since its organization and has been a most efficient officer in that capacity. He was for some time A.A.A. Gen. at Brigade Head Qrs. and earned a fine reputation for his efficiency in that position. He is a prompt, able and energetic officer, perfectly conversant with his duties and faithful in their discharge.

Should you appoint him as a member of your staff it will be very gratifying to him as well as his friends who know his worth and his wishes in this respect, and will secure for yourself the services of a most valuable officer.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
Wm. H. Fogler
Capt. Comd'g 19th Maine Vols.

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard
Comd'g 11th Army Corps

Augusta, Me Feb. 10th 1864

My dear Sewall

Nothing would give me more pleasure than to comply with your kind invitation, but I cannot this time. I have accepted a pressing invitation from the Christian Commission to stop in Boston Friday night next and speak somewhere, but at what place I do not know. My mother is going to Indiana with me and we have agreed to stay over night with a near relative. Just as soon as I can do so, if God spares my life, I shall do myself the pleasure of visiting you. Give my kindest remembrances to Mrs Sewall & her father. May God help & keep you.

Affectionately. O. O. Howard

Hon W. S. Sewall

War Department.

Adjutant General's Office.

Washington, February 13, 1864

Major General Oliver O. Howard,
U. S. Volunteers,
Chattanooga, Tennessee.

General,

The Secretary of War takes great pleasure in transmitting to you General Orders, No. 41, promulgating a Joint Resolution tendering the thanks of Congress to yourself and the officers and soldiers of the Army of the Potomac.

I have the honor to be, General,
Very Respectfully,
Your Obdt. Servant,
E D Townsend
Assistant Adjutant General

first covered Washington and Baltimore

Joint Resolution

Expressive of the thanks of Congress to Major General Joseph Hooker, Major General George C. Meade, Major General Oliver O. Howard and the officers and soldiers of the army of the Potomac.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the gratitude of the American people, and the thanks of their representatives are due, and are hereby tendered, to Major General Joseph Hooker and the officers and soldiers of the army of the Potomac, for the skill energy and endurance which first covered Washington and Baltimore from the meditated blow of the advancing and powerful army of rebels led by General Robert E. Lee; and to Major General George C. Meade, Major General Oliver O. Howard and the officers and

soldiers of that army, for the skill and heroic valor which at Gettysburg repulsed, defeated and drove back, broken and dispirited, beyond the Rappahannock, the veteran army of the rebellion.

[illegible] Sept.

A. G. O.
Washington D.C.
Feby. 13th '64

Townsend E.D.
asst. Adjt. Genl

Copy of letter transmitting Genl. Orders No 41, promulgating a Joint Resolution of Congress thanks Genls. Meade, Hancock, Howard for bravery &c

Recd Feby — 1864

Resolutions of Congress respecting certain officers and Army of Potomac.

A. G. O.
Washington D.C.
Febry. 13th 1864

promulgating resolution of Congress relating to certain officers &c.

Townsend E.D.
Asst. Adjt. Genl.

Copy of letter transmitting Genl. Orders No 41, promulgating a Joint Resolution of Congress thanks Genls. Sherman, Meade and Howard for bravery &c

Recd Febry — 1864

Chillicothe Ohio
Feb 13/64

Private

Chillicothe Ohio, Feb. 13. 1864

General:

I have been impelled by, what I regard, justifiable circumstances to tender my resignation; and I take the liberty to address you privately on the subject.

The communication was forwarded to the Superintendent of recruiting for Ohio, and by him transmitted to the Adjt. Gen. of the Army at Washington.

I think it probable, the document will be referred to you for your opinion; and I desire to ask your favorable consideration.

I trust you know me well enough to need no assurance, that the step was not taken without careful deliberation, and a conscientious inquiry touching my obligations to my country.

The leading reason set forth in my resignation

would have induced me to retire from the service months ago had we not been in the midst of activities which rendered it improper and impracticable.
I was unwilling to disregard the claims of the service when circumstances seemed to render them paramount to other considerations.
I now believe I can retire without prejudice to my regiment. You are well aware that Lt. Col. Long and his associates are abundantly capable of directing its operations without impairing its efficiency. Moreover, should its numbers reach the requirement, I think him, as well as Major Hurst and Capt. Higgins justly entitled to promotion.
If I have succeeded, in the two years service already rendered, in promoting the efficiency of the regiment, and in any manner contributed towards the success of our arms and the crippling of the rebellion, I shall feel fully compensated for my efforts, and were I convinced that my regiment must suffer by my withdrawal I should still feel under obligations to remain with it. Having satisfied myself to the contrary of this, I do not recognize any legal or moral obligation of a higher command.
I therefore must earnestly repeat my desire that you should make such endorsements as will secure the object which I seek viz: my retirement to private life.
With assurance of the highest esteem and profoundest wishes for your continued safety and success.

I am, Dear General,
Very Truly Yours,
Orland Smith
Col. 73d Ohio Vols.

Major Gen. O. O. Howard
Comdg 11th Corps
Chattanooga.

Richmond Ind.
Feb. 19th 1876

Dear Father -

We have quite a pleasant journey - stopped in Buffalo one Sunday - got here yesterday tuesday morning - Mother not only stood the journey well, but I think has been decidedly benefitted by it - the breezes quite action in very healthy & cheerful. I do hope you are getting on well & so does she - Henry is well & seems to be doing well - All the family are well when - has got frequently well -

Remember me to Roland & Martha -

Your affectionate Son -
Otis

Aunt Martha says you must come west if you want a new lease of life
She sends her love & thinks for Mother's coming

Richmond Indiana
February 17th 1864

Dear Aunt.

Mr. Dwight met us at the depot in Boston. We staged over Cambridge and I was taken to the Tremont and washed a little. Then went with Mr. D. to the Tobey. Mr. Pres. of the Boston Board of Trade whom I knew in Phil. Saw the members of the principal men, merchants, statesmen, lawyers &c. &c. was introduced to me and conversed for a minute or two. I think the cordial reception in Boston did me good. Mrs. T. and daughters I met is very fine lady. At 11 I went there to Mr. Hazard's, had a good sleep, so did Mother. Left 8½ next day via Albany, arrived in Albany 5 P.M. took

from Seven call to you. Lehus is in clover. I shall leave tomorrow at 10½ A.M. I am anxious about Guy. I do hope his attack was temporary and Jennie I trust finds he is quite well. And yourself I feel sure you will break down unless you can live a little more easily. My insurance with even the mortgage if the Hall takes up with the offer I don't think I would sell a great deal of R.R. Bonds. They must be good for the present. When you can get time I want you, Lizzie, to send me a list of stocks and cash on deposit — I shall send you the policy or rather Uncle Henry will. Much love to yourself and to the children. Tell Gracie Papa does want her to read story books much. Mrs. Woodward will make other selection for her. Papa wants her to learn everything as her Mamma did. is. to knit, and sew & cut & fit. Remember for precious baby

Lovingly
Good night your / Otis

ing at Delaware. Entered cars at 6 P.M.
arrived in Rochester at 4 A.M. Sunday
slept in Genesee Hotel till 7 -
breakfasted and then went on
to Buffalo - went to American Home-
dinner - went to a Mil. funeral & then
to St. Paul's Epis. evening service -
services very pleasant to me & Mother
enjoyed. Music not to be surpassed -
Ate supper & found Dr Hill. Christian
physician that I had travelled with
from Phila to Newport. We went to
Presbyterian church, heard Dr. Hitchcock
preach on Sin. Met Lt Sandy on old
army officer & acquaintance. & Mr Howard
prominent citizen. Pres. of the bank came
to call on me. Next day (Monday) left
for Cleveland at 7 - arrived 3 P.M. time
waiting for Columbus. Mother had grown
so young that she was from time to time
fretful. Reached Columbus 9.30
P.M. Met with the brothers of Connecticut
post. One quite elderly gentleman 65 yrs old

received attention - Mr Sweetwith kindly to Exchange
Hotel near depot. Slept till after 1 - went
on at 4 & reached Richmond about 9
Ere. Tuesday. Mr anticipated all expectations -
found a warm welcome. Chas. was gone
to Chicago, to settle place - has just
returned bringing back Louisa Higgin
Stickland. She is a lady now, and
that you and I would enjoy. Mr
appreciation and very elevated quite
good looking. Nancy is fond of her. I
told Mother what you said about mother's
bonnet. She will attend to it. She sends
warmest love to you - wishes me to press you
to receive her a visit. Fanny call the children
I told her you had 5, he wanted 7 or 10 lbs.
She says bring me one lbs. She has a colored
girl. Very dark and one who can do the
things the work of a white one (ordinarily) - takes
courage, darling. The patient, want you! -
I concluded to get a small insurance
policy. They wont insure me for but
2000. It isn't enough to render it dangerous.

Lookout Valley Oct 19/64

I feel like writing you this morning, not because I have got anything to say, but the beautiful boy might say to his lady love "I want some time to tell you I love you." I generally think of you a great deal in the morning after I wake. I expect I go to bed sooner than you do and therefore wake up pretty early. Then again the evenings hour which is two thirds roof is very light after sunrise. I wish to know you and talk about or rather write about it a few years ago, but now I really think a great deal more of you. To all the external beauty, God has granted you graces of heart, a beautiful spirit which endears you to me above measure. And then how he has blessed us, what completeness in children

Mother Mrs Julia would have liked very much, but I don't think the weather will go to schooling yet this winter. I calculate on her being in Cincinnati for winter. Perhaps she may go

Tuesday morning - raining hard - scarcely any rain for last two months - no more operations probably before April. I didn't write you from Buffalo because half the day was spent in the cars and I did not find a respectable convenience at the Hotel - Mother did not go to church in the evening and wrote to Fulton a few lines in pencil. I wrote you from Richmond but a brief sketch of our trip. Again I sent a letter from Nashville: I did not tell you I met my old class mate & room-mate Townsend with his wife & child visiting - I think you met him when we were cadets. He is the Ordnance Officer at Nashville. He looked very happy - I called out: "Hallo Townsend". He hesitated a moment & then knew me - introduced me to his wife and then to the little daughter - or perhaps room-mate. Townsend (Edwin F.) resigned, but was reappointed in the Regular Infantry at the beginning of the war. We are quite well this morning. Have good spirits - cough and raise a little every morning but don't think it amounts to much. I think Dr Mulkins Syrup Hyphos did me good, but I got out of them before I got well. - How about the new house - Has Mr Hall decided about my offer - My insurance was with a view to cover the mortgage of 1500 - The examining thought me a good subject, but for the chances of war - My lungs sound and having an expansion of three inches. I pay 5 per cent for war risk and after that 2½ dollars a year for ten years - meanwhile all dividends will be added to the amount of policy or paid back. So that at the end of ten years it will be like all other investments. Give much love to Guy - I will write him soon. I was glad to know Mrs Williams intimate that he loved the truth. How happy he will be if he always clings to tell the truth let what will come. May God help him to love & serve Him. Give much love to Grace. I have sent her a letter - Jennie and Chaney are never forgotten. Mother wants to get Martha to live with her. I think if you get a larger house she will be well off with her mother. If there is a good chance for going to school - It will be a good thing. Should she go

(Afternoon)

I told Charles today as he showed me a picture of Celestine in Harper - making a noise upstairs, and much knocking knitting his brows over a speech in French downstairs. Then I believed I could write better with the children making a noise around me and I have no doubt of it. I will send Jessie and the baby here to play with for it is rainy and I have intermitted my usual 4 P.M. ride. But you will say: I thought it was morning - it was on the other page yet now it is evening almost dark - I got up early yesterday morning and rode with Mr Donald (orderly) to the Dorchester Depot to meet Charles. At ten minutes past 8, the train arrived and he emerged with his old genial face. The journey refreshed him - He left mother quite well and enjoying her visit. Much they enjoy reading the responses. Mr Wakefield can hardly do without him - Ohio is a little sense - He is really changed. Diggie is a real good girl. Fred is not good has no moral principle. Such are some of Charles's comments. I sent you in my last letter to you, a check of 90 dollars on Louisville Depositary (U.S.) to your order.

Louisville Ky.
Friday Feb. ~~18th~~ 19th 1864

Dearest,

When Chas. came back from Chicago, he brought a letter from you commencing "My dear husband" I could not account for the formalism and hope I may now return to be your "Dearest" again. I consented to stop two days at Harrys and now I think it well as I avoided a collision on the Indianapolis and Louisville R.R. yesterday on reaching the former place I expected to leave in the 9 P.M. train but found it was not to go, and so I took "a golden train" and was from 8½ P.M. until 2 A.M. today in getting to this place. I made the acquaintance of Major Sam. Moody commanding a cavalry organized detachment of the 27th Mich. on his way to join the regt. at Knoxville. He went from Fahnestock, Mich. (Whether he met you, I was

Chas. will join me in ten days — Mother is enjoying her visit very much — Asa (Strickland) Sayles sent his love to you & wants to see you. She is living in a family with two rooms reserved to herself. has one child — that age six weeks old when her husband died — Fred. in business by himself is doing well — I could not find Wm. Sym-

ago when you were a young lady at somebody's house at Falmouth. He was then about starting for California. He said he thought you a very beautiful and amiable girl and that his mother who never would consent to himself or his brother marrying, was willing he should make an offer to you. So we chatted. His brother's name is Glendy Moody I believe. I have met him at the Galt House. Gen. McCook & his wife also Miss Crittenden. Mrs McCook is about your size. She is fresh & young & pretty. Mrs C. is a lovely spirit. Gen W. F. Smith "Baldie" as we call him is here with his wife and baby of 14 months, taken ill en route from New York to Nashville. The little one is just hanging by a thread between life and death. Mrs Smith is as beautiful a lady, my own wife excepted, as I have seen. She is very cheerful, but he can scarcely keep the tears back. God grant they may be spared the great sorrow of losing him. I wish I could hear from Guy & Jamie as well as from the rest. I am sitting in the office of the Galt House at a desk for guests to write on. Chairs fastened in position. An old man of 70 in next chair in a troublesome drunken sleep. Dreams aloud now & then. I called on Mrs Jenkins tonight. She sends her love to you. Has a baby of 14 months, fine little girl, just running alone. Thro' some misrepresentation Capt Jenkins A.Q.M. was suddenly relieved from duty and has long waited for an assignment. She thinks he will go with Schofield in East Tenn. Mr Jenkins was out during the evening. I fear he is drinking some. She is unchanged. Give special love to each bairnie and may God bless you & them. Remember me kindly to the girls. Julia & Kas. I leave for Nashville at 7 in the morning

Lovingly — Otis

Uncle Henry evaporates much water with his furnace

Archie - I think it unsafe not to do so, don't you?

Banking House of **DAVID PRESTON & CO.**

ESTABLISHED MAY, 1852.

Detroit, Feb 22 1864

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Major General Howard

Chattanooga Tenn

My Dear Sir:

I yesterday read with great pleasure the proceedings of the 2nd anniversary of the U.S. Christian Com at Phil 28th ult. I am glad General Howard, that we have at least one May Genl. (I hope we have many) who Love the Lord Jesus Christ. One who amid the noise and amid the dangers of Battles can exclaim, I fear no evil. "Thy Rod and thy Staff they comfort & support me." One who can affectionately kneel by the side of the dying Soldier and whisper in his ear "Let not your heart be troubled. Ye believe in God believe also in me. In my Father's house are many Mansions &c." I am glad my Dear Bro that you, not only believe in God. But that you believe in Jesus in the darkness of the world. O! how sweet the name of Jesus sounds in the Christians ear. It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds, and drives away his fear." O how many Christian Hearts will gladly embrace the opportunity to Pray for you,

Yours truly David Preston

Sept 22. 1864.

Letter

Headquarters Eleventh Corps,

Feb 23 1864.

Dear Mr. I arrived at "Bockard" Depot yesterday morning, found my staff waiting for me — breakfasted at my old place or rather in a new tent that had been put up, an improvement — went to see Gen. Thomas in the afternoon. He has been ill suffering from ~~[illegible]~~ rheumatism. The weather is lovely beyond description, warm as May, birds singing — I am handsomely comfortable with a cook on. I have hired a colored man "boy" by the name of "Sam". He says his wife is Julia's sister. He appears to be a fine man, and takes

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both well. I seem to begin back at Louisville and give you a bit of history of the journey - which was a very pleasant one - I got your letter on my arrival I was glad to find boy was so well I sorry for Jamie - I think the fracture is the cause of sore throats - My cold is nearly well -

I have just snatched a few moments to say I am here and all is well - Gen Palmer with the 1st corps is making a reconnaissance towards Dalton. My command is a little scattered, but I hope to bring it forward before long. Much love to all the children and a prayer for your keeping -

Lovingly
Otis

Are sorry for the little one to have gone better
see friend wonder to gain ——

Head Qrs. 11th Corps Lookout
Valley Feb 24th 1864

Dear Mary – I wrote you a hasty letter yesterday with the promise of beginning back. After I closed my letter at Louisville I went to bed & had a good sleep till about 5 o'clock. When I was awakened with a similar sound power down to door of "breakfast!". I met a good many officers at the hotel on account of the Court of Inquiry in session on the 2nd Corps. Cutterson and Negley. Chas. Hunter, Wadsworth, Van Cleve, Smith (Baldy) also Col. Schriver Inspector General who is the judge advocate of the Court. Capt Wilson of the 3d Cavalry was there with his bride, brought from St. Louis and enroute to Huntsville Ala. When

[illegible] Mrs Wm. Wallace

he was stationed. Tillford quartered three years before me. His wife was not handsome but seems to exercise a good deal of influence over him. She is a "romanist". Mr Davis - the Tillfords & myself got rather together for Nashville -

There was a great crush at the Depot as much as at Augusta - everybody who wants to is not allowed to go - and it is quite a feat to get a seat amongst those who are allowed to go. Gen. Davis Jeff. C. is the General who shot Gen Nelson at Pittsburgh Landing. He is a pleasant, quiet gentleman, but quick tempered. He was in the old army and is still a Captain in the first Artillery. He commands a Div. in the 1st Corps - was associated with

rose in the pursuit of the enemy after the battle of Chattanooga. We had a pleasant day and no accident. We had 20 minutes for dinner at Cave City. In this town is the celebrated Mammoth cave. "the one that every American ought to see". Yet it has been my fortune to pass through three times without that pleasure. You and I will stop there when we visit Lookout Mountain next year! At Nashville we found charming May weather. drove to the St. Cloud. where I left Julia and Nora and walked to Gen. Underwoods. He is improving. able to move his leg a little and begins to feel out of danger." I was again invited to come over & stay with them

Mrs Harris of the Ladies Aid Society, my particular friend, dont be jealous for she is considerably passed fifty. To whose this house is assigned, was gone to Dr. Li[illegible] occupied her room at the request she left behind on leaving. Mr Hall was pleasantly. Mr Underwood accompanied me to church, at the presbyterian, College St. The room was almost filled with strangers from the hospitals. The interstices were filled with citizens & strangers. We had a good sermon, convincing us of sin, but the coughing was so marked that it interrupted the service. I helped a little, in spite of good resolutions to the contrary. I met at Mr Underwoods two Surgeons & their wives, a friend lady & two others. They

round together occupying this palatial residence, that Mrs Davis, received from some secesh sympathizers who were trying to keep it for the rebel family which had abandoned it and fled on the approach of the Union forces. The scenery & the residence in and about Nashville are magnificent. At 4½ P.M. I found Gen Davis, Capt Mrs Tilford at the depot. But I forget to tell of my interview with Gen. Grant. Sat. evening I went in to see him. He appears to a stranger very much as I think we took Waterloo. He talked with me very freely. Thinks with me that the coming campaign will be likely to settle the difficulties and end the

town. After talking a while about Sherman's expedition — he spoke of his visit to Vicksburg, of his son who was sick, and of his wife. She took cold when at Nashville and it settled in her eyes and she was still suffering badly from it. The sick son was the one who had been so long with him in the Mississippi campaign and acted as aid — already 13 yrs. old. Young man's it! The father spoke with pride of his precocious youngster. The gen. accompanied me to the St. Cloud to call on Mrs Tilford. In the parlors of the hotel we found an elegant & accomplished lady & was introduced by Gen Grant — Mrs Hough. She knows everything, everybody — interested

man's with Mrs. Seward and others. I noticed in talking with Gen. Grant she was intensely Union and laid great stress on the word rebel. She wanted a pass to Huntsville, Ala. I think as she said she purposed going there. Afterwards I asked Gen. Grant who she was & he said she had been recommended to him by some of his friends as an lady who moved in the best society of the land. While on this very bitter Gen. D. also told me of a conversation he overheard with some cotton speculators. They represented that some few, whose mistaken zeal was now in power, were using her to circumvent an Order of Gen. Logan at Huntsville expelling all cotton speculators from

two lines. I wrote the facts on my pattness to Mrs. Grant. It seems almost impossible that so elegant, so beautiful a lady, with every accomplishment could be lost.

Jen Davis & myself fixed up a bed by turning two seats together & putting the bottoms across - opening my rubber blanket & pillow. We had a very good sleep - thro. Nolatoma, over the mountain - thro. Stevenson - Wheeler Opt. & Mrs. Gilford waited on us to say good bye. At daylight we looked out upon Bridgeport - the town quite a place - buildings here springing up. Steamboats are building. The gigantic Bridge is complete. My arrival was welcomed in a quiet way - many body seemed real glad to see me. Harry & Gilbert are well. I leave my Sam. getting best home - sick - cough scarcely any. Much love to all the children. My pants were not in the valise did the Tailor bring them up? George Gaspin is here now all well

Yours
Otis

Geo. H. Stuart, *Chairman*, 11 Bank St.
Jos. Patterson, *Treas.*, Western Bank.
Rev. W. E. Boardman, *Sec'y*, 11 Bank St.

U. S. Christian Commission,

11 BANK STREET.

Philadelphia, February 25 1864

My dear Friend:

We have received a number of letters from clergymen and others, urging us to publish your Speech, delivered at our meeting in the Academy of Music, this city, in pamphlet form, for general, gratuitous distribution. The general opinion is that it would greatly promote the cause of Christ and of our country, and we have concluded to comply with the request, which comes from so many and such influential sources. Befor publishing it, we thought best to send you a copy, that you may have an opportunity of making

any alterations you think proper, though we are of opinion it is all right as it is. When you have made the alterations, if you should think of any, please return it to us, that it may go direct to the printer. We purpose printing a very large number of copies, and will be happy to send you as many as you may order.

Yours very truly,
Geo. H. Stuart
per. J. M.

Major General O. O. Howard.

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Tawanda Feb 25/64

Genl. Howard

Dear Sir allow me to inform you of your election as an honorary member of our S.S. Mis Soc per the contribution & voice of Mr Bells class of our S.S (Boys) Hoping to hear from you of your willingness to have your name enrolled on our list of worthies as a friend of the S.S. & Mis. cause

I remain yours

O. A. Black Sec

of S.S. Mis Soc 1st Presb. church

Tawanda, Pa

P.S. Genl if not asking to much we would like a letter to read to our S.S. at our monthly concert — Sec

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Cantwell,

Black. O. A.
Secy. S.S. Miss Soc'y
1st Pres Church
Tawanda, Pa.
Feb. 25th 1864.

Head Quarters 11th Corps

February 26th 1864

My dearest Daughter,

I received your letter with mamma's good long post script today. I did have a pleasant ride after I went from home, but I don't think it was so interesting to me as it would have been to you, had you accompanied me. Grandma, who met me at Brunswick, had a very pleasant journey. We stayed at Betty's House the first night, rode almost all night the second, stopping at the Genevese Hotel at Rochester N.Y.

from 4 A.M. till about 8 - The next night we slept in Buffalo N.Y. - The next from 10 P.M. till 1 A.M. at Columbus, Ohio. The next at Richmond Indiana, where you have one little cousin and three big ones - The little one they call Annie. She cannot speak plainly - You can scarcely understand her. but she is very animated and loves her sisters and cousins very much. Uncle Charles & Cousin Lizzie Strickland met us the next day after our arrival - came down on the cars from Chicago. Thursday night Papa was on a Soldiers train, slept in the cars - Friday night at the

Gulf House, Louisville, Ky. The next night at Nashville, Tenn. The next on the cars - and the others up tomorrow in Lookout Valley.
I hope you will not whisper and you will not have the unpleasant duty of telling that others whisper. I hope you will be able to draw a good map of Maine. There are three rivers you must not forget. The Androscoggin, near which your papa was born. The Kennebec, near which papa was born and the Penobscot, near which mamma was born. Ask mamma if she was not born at Bangor. or if she only went there when a little girl?. You said

"Good by" papa - so good bye
daughter - Give much love to dear
Mamma - to Guy, Jamie & Chauncy - My love
also to Col & Mrs Woodman. I hope
you are all very well. Remember
me kindly to Ebell - to Julia and
"Jamie's little girls".
May Our blessed Heavenly Father keep
you all in his love and fear. He says:
"I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."
See if you can find those words in the
Bible. Papa coughs scarcely any -
and is quite well - expects much
charter tomorrow or next day morning

Your affectionate father
O. O. Howard

P.S. I send a Check ($90) on the U.S. Louisville Depositary
to Mamma's Order in my last letter
O. O. H.

Bath Feb. 26. 1864

Dear Sister Lizzie

Poor Hattie died Wednesday morning after untold suffering = She bore a consistant & clear testimony to the Love of Jesus to the last = The family seem calm. & kept when some wave of sorrow sweeps over them = She besought them each by name to meet her in Heaven = The funeral is Sat. at 3. P. M. and I will not go home till Monday = Ella & Sadie are here & pretty well - I have not heard a word yet from

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Ella sends much love

Otis & Mother = Charles
went up to Chicago for
Lizzie Strickland & note
me from there = Sarah
got home last Sat.
Evening & enjoyed her
visit very much = Give
much love to my little
nephews & niece & to
Cousins Warren & Sarah W.

Your affy. Brother
Rowland

Head Quarters 11th Corps

Feb. 26th 1864

My dear Mother - I wrote you at Louisville and telegraphed a short note from Nashville but I believe I have said nothing to you since. I went to the Presbyterian Church in this forenoon - the church was filled with soldiers apparently the convalescents from the hospitals in the city & many of them seemed to have a hard cough, even them seem, so that the services were much interrupted - Now everything was only drowned by the doxology. At half 1 P.M. I am overdrest since my return. It seems like another world compared with Richmond Quitman. When you conscently think your son freezing. I shall expect Charles a little tomorrow morning, but more Sunday - for he cannot get here easily till the latter since the trains do not connect at Nashville. My health is very good - cough a very little in the morning and take a little cold by the change from close houses, but feel quite well. I have visited every day - inspecting camps, hospitals, picketts &c. beginning at 4 P.M. Tomorrow I have engaged to go to Chatt.ga with Gen. Hooker. He is uncommonly cordial since my return. Give my love to Mr. Hunt & Jennie. I have proven Lizzie Hotchkiss off to 19th inst all well - Isabella & Etta now both away Isabella on a visit but in Y's & Annie's letter "girls" were doing nicely - I have got a check for the Sanitary Fair Mary - Hope you are very well & happy - Yr. affy. Son Chas

left for Chattanooga in the regular passenger train - Gen Jeff. C. Davis was with me and we managed to make us two very comfortable beds. At about 8 A.M. Monday I got off at Bridgeport & Switch-men all my staff were waiting to receive me. I found everything quiet here - rather on Gen Hooker and Gen. Thomas that day. Gen. Thomas had dispatched the greater part of his force on a reconnoissance towards Dalton and it has not returned yet. He himself went yesterday - There has been some little firing in that direction - My scouts can find no enemy within forty miles of this place. My new div. is to come forward soon from Nashville Vicinity. I wanted to see Col. Coburn but have not yet been able to. I find my regiment still can here in prime condition with beautiful camps. We have a nice looking man the RR station and give the men soft bread constantly. The Christian Commission have a stand near them. I will enclose one of Mr Douglas' circulars. The weather is beautiful here here as warm as May at home. We are not kept on

Camp Lookout Valley Feb. 23/1864

Maj. Gen. O. Howard Comdg 11th Corps

Sir

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At the critical condition of my adopted but affectionately beloved country at the time of the evacuation of Harrisons Landing and the 2d battle of Bull Run I abandoned a lucrative position as Salesman with the house of Thomas Mellor & Co in Phila to enlist with the 27th Regt P.V. Having previously refused the tender of a commission as 2d Lieut. by the now Gen. Schimmelpfennig and Col. Barkbeck, I did then not hesitate to enter as Private, although brought up in comparative refinement and educated at the University of Berlin Prussia. – The allusion to such matters, indifferent though they be in themselves and indiscreet their recital, will explain my perhaps too fastidious sensitiveness upon the point of honor, the unrestricted cultivation of which sense had heretofore attended my whole life. The keener the conception of the disgrace, inflicted upon me, the more humiliating was therefore a Regimental order, a copy of which I would have enclosed, had it not been refused to me, reducing me in due form to the ranks, for leaving Camp without permission. –

It is hard, General, after laboring with religious punctuality and faithfulness to discharge all, even the most onerous, duties on marches and pickets as well as in battles especially since my promotion to Corporal in Dec. 1862, never having been guilty of any neglect of duties, not even happily on account of sickness, when the terms of enlistment of our Regt are nearly expired, to be yet subjected to disgrace. – The passport, which I have the liberty, to include

does not in my opinion sustain the charge of said order.
You will therefore pardon, General, if I briefly state my offence. On the 22nd inst. I received in the afternoon, together with Serg. Naar permission to go to Lookout Point. We met there some old friends of the 78th Regt P.V. and remained longer than we intended, trusting in the then full moon to be our safe guide after sunset. Our friends however bade us desist from the very perilous undertaking, to descend the steep mountain at night and as neither the passport nor any remarks of ours had specified the time of our return, we stayed there over night. Next morning I reported myself to Capt. v. Seidlitz, Comdg my Co, and offered my apology, which was not accepted. I was then recommended for degradation, while Serg. Naar received arrest of 24 hours as punishment. I have some reason to believe, General, that I am a victim to partiality. Yet my urgent appeal for an interview with Maj. Riedt Comdg our Regt as well as my humble prayer for redress of Col. Buschbeck have so far been ignored. — I owe it to my family and friends at home, who have faith in the integrity of my character, to remove by yet another effort, the stigma, which the excess of punishment has lastingly imposed upon it, (as degradation is generally accepted as a punishment for disgraceful actions) and I implore you, General, with all the fervor, with which the conviction of an undeserved stain upon my honor, inspires me, to assist me in having the order revoked and substitute, if must be, a less degrading punishment.
I allow myself to suggest, that the ends of justice will not suffer thereby, and I will not cease to submissively confront hardships, exposures and even death, although not prepared for disgrace.
I may have, General, transgressed in this intrusive communicat ion the routine of military discipline, but believe me, that my reverential faith in your justice and my filial regard for your own individuality have ever proved effective equivalents and powerful incentives for adequating myself to all essential requirements of the service.

I have the honor to sign myself
with the highest regard
General
Your humble servant
Hugo Jacoby
Corp. Co A 27th Regt P.V.
1st Brig. 2nd Div. 11th Corps

second battle of Bull run, the President issued another call for volunteers, and ordered a draft of the militia. The stability of the Government seemed to be imperilled, and the people of the north were gloomy & despondent. Under these circumstances, I was called upon to raise and take command of a Regt. to meet the ~~emergency of the time~~ emergency that was upon us. A sense of duty, the promptings of patri=otism, and public sentiment induced me to respond to the call. It is true, I had many clients who had entrusted their business to me and whose rights & interests required protection. But the time had come when I thought the Government had a paramount claim to my services. I dropped my pen, laid aside my briefs, and abandoned my clients. I accepted the Colonelcy in a volunteer Regt. to be raised in the 30th Senate dist of the state of N.Y. Within two weeks from the time I accepted the commission, the men to compose the Regt. were selected, within four weeks they were organized into a regt. and mustered into the U.S. service, and within six weeks I was with my Regt, on the South bank of the Potomac, in the state of Virginia. At the same time that I was commissioned, my law partner, and the clerk in our office, were appointed & commissioned as officers in the same Regt.; thus stripping my law office of every person connected with it, leaving no one to take care of my business interest in my absence. The pay and emoluments of the office of Colonel are much less than the income from my professional business; and it will readily be seen, that I could not thus suddenly and unexpectedly abandon my business, without sustaining a large pecuniary loss.

But the pecuniary consideration and loss is of small account, and does not weigh much in my mind, in estimating the value of the sacrifice, which I laid upon the altar of my country. I was ambitious in my profession. I determined to occupy no second place. After a long, arduous, and almost exhausting struggle, I reached the point for which I started. I trust I may be allowed to state without subjecting myself to the charge of self-laudation or egotism, what was a conceded fact, namely, that at the time I entered the service, I stood at the head of the bar with which I was connected. It was a position which I had se=cured by hard study, close & long continued application to business, and many a hard fought engage=ment on the forensic battled field. Here I was securely intrenched, and could not be dislodged until life's forces should fail by natural decay, or be weakened by disease.

Head Quarters 2° Brig 2° Div. 11th A.C.
Lookout Valley Tenn. Feb. 29th 1864

Maj. Genl O. O. Howard Comdg 11th Corps A.C.

General

It is to me a humiliating position to ask for, and canvass my own claims for office. It was always so in civil life; and hence I never was a successful politician: particularly in the profession I love, in matters military. But I observe that those who are successful in obtaining military office and promotion, are those, who put forth and press their own claims, and that the management of of the politicians is adopted in military life, ~~outside~~ and is, I regret to say, too often successful over justice, rank, & merit. Self-defence, therefore, compels me, to a certain extent, to adopt the same course, even at the expense of some self respect. I was very highly gratified and flattered by the favorable consideration with which you received my application for promotion, in the interview I had with you on the subject. I resolved to have an inter=view with Maj. Genl Hooker on the same subject. Accordingly I called on him the next day. This to me was a new cross, for beside the self-abasement of presenting my own claims, I was but slightly acquainted with him. The interview however was a very pleasant one, and Genl Hooker did me the honor to say that he would do all in his power to procure my promotion. He said that in his judgment the time came to persons, was for the Corps Commander to give me a rec=ommendation in writing, asking my promotion upon such grounds as he might think proper to present, which recommendation he (Genl Hooker) would favorably endorse.

I beg leave therefore, in presenting my request for such a

recommendation, to lay before you in writing, the grounds upon which, in my judgement, it is right and proper for me to ask for promotion.

I. A consciousness of an ability to discharge the duties which the advanced grade will devolve upon me, with credit to myself, and benefit to the service. I am aware, that no opinion is more likely to be erroneous, than a favorable opinion of one's self. As a general rule, men are apt to over estimate their own abilities, their relative position, their own importance. Yet I am constrained to believe that I can do justice to the office I seek. In comparing myself with those officers around me, with whom I come in contact, holding or discharging the duties of the advanced grade, I see nothing which should deter me from asking for the position; on the contrary, it seems to me that I could discharge the duties, with more energy, more efficiency, and more profitably to the Government than, at least some of them.

II. I humbly submit, with all due deference, that my services since I have been in the Military service of the U.S. authorize me to ask for promotion as a favor, if it does not entitle me to demand it as a right.

I have now been in the service nineteen months. I entered the army as Colonel of the 136th Regt N.Y.S.V. made up entirely of raw recruits. Not an officer in the Regt. had received a military education, or had any military experience. The arduous nature of the undertaking to work this material into a well disciplined, efficient, reliable regiment, will be readily appreciated. Within a week after I reached Washington, when arms were first put into the hands of the men, I was ordered to join the 11th Corps, army of the Potomac, for active duties in the field. I was put under Commanders from whom I received no advice, no instruction, no encouragement. Up to the time Genl Barlow took command of the Brigade, so far as drill, discipline and the internal government of the Regt was concerned, I had an isolated Command. Our Camp of instruction was in front of the enemy, under their discouraging circumstances. I labored assiduously & industriously, to drill & discipline my Regt & make it efficient & reliable. In my judgement, it did make rapid proficiency in acquiring the drill, and a knowledge of all the duties it was called upon to discharge. In long and weary marches, on the picket line, and on the battle field, its character & efficiency has repeatedly been put to a practical test. At Chancellorville at Gettysburgh at Lookout Valley at Chattanooga and the marches which preceded and succeeded the battles designated by those names, it made a record, of which, to say the least, it need not be ashamed. In military as in morals, the same rule, I suppose obtains - You discover a good officer by the same criterion that you do a righteous man "By their fruits ye shall know them." By this rule I am willing my merits should be tested.

III. It seems to me that the sacrifices to which I was subjected, and to which I was compelled to submit, when I entered the military service of the U.S. entitles me to some compensation, and other things being equal, might to be taken into consideration, in determining the question of promotion.

When the rebellion broke out which was the cause of the present war, I was engaged in the practice of the law, at Geneseo, Livingston Co. State of N.Y. where I commenced my professional career. I had an established reputation, and a large and lucrative practice. Under the President's first call for troops, I was actively engaged in raising & forwarding volunteers to the defence of Washington. I did not then take a regiment, because there seemed to be no lack of regimental Commanders; and because I had not sufficient confidence in my military knowledge & capacity, to justify myself in assuming the responsible position of the Command of an undisciplined regt. I doubted my ability to meet the exigencies of the service, as I then understood it. It is true, that in my younger days I had dabbled in military affairs, had succeeded with others in remodeling, not to say reforming, the Militia system of our State; had organized volunteer Militia regts, had drilled and manoeuvred them in field days and in encampments; but for ten years next preceding the commencement of the war, I had devoted myself exclusively to my profession. I knew just enough of military, to cause me to shrink from the responsibility of Command.

After the disastrous result of the peninsular campaign, and the defeat of our arms at the

for a professional man to satisfy himself, that it is his duty, voluntarily, to abandon such a position "Hic opus, hic labor est." But I arrived at the conclusion that such was my duty, & guided by what I supposed to be patriotic motives, humbly asking from "Our Father which art in Heaven" light from above to direct me in the right path, and lead me in the right way, I did abandon my professional hopes, its honors, its distinctions, its advantages and its benefits, (not however without casting many "lingering lingering looks behind") to risk my reputation in a new and untried profession, and my life on the battle field.

IV. An attempt has been made to deprive my Regt of the credit to which it is entitled, for the part it took in the night action of Lookout Valley, and to have it believed that the Regt did not participate in the engagement. As near as I can ascertain, outside of this Division, it is understood that the assault on the hill was made by the 73d O. & 33 Mass. and that the 136th N.Y. was not engaged. The facts are that ~~four~~ the first two regts named, made an attack upon the enemy posted on the hill. They were repulsed and returned to foot of the hill. It was in this repulse, that the casualties occurred which these regiments sustained. Col Underwood was wounded, as it was then thought mortally, and several other officers were killed and wounded. At this juncture my Regt was ordered up, and I was directed to attack the enemy. I charged up the hill in the face of a steady musketry fire, without firing a gun. I out flanked the enemy's line of battle, drove that part of his forces in my front in confusion from the hill. This exposed his right flank and caused a retreat of the whole line. The 33d Mass, after the repulse reformed at the foot of the hill, renewed the attack and when I arrived on the hill, it was in contact with the enemy, with both flanks exposed, and but for timely reinforcement would have been cut off, or repulsed. The 73d O. did not attack the second time, but threw out skirmishers and took shelter by getting into a depression in the surface of the ground ~~at least~~ a short distance from the road. It was not till some time after the engagement was over, that the 73d O. was moved up the hill

and formed connection with the 33d Mass, on its right. The evidences of confusion and precipitancy of retreat, were found only in front of my Regt. I refer to the guns, swords, hats, caps &c, with which the ground was strewn. This is a fair unvarnished statement of the facts, in regard to this fight. I claim that the success of the attack, and the victory, was due to the vigorous charge of the 136th N.Y. That is to say, the attack would have been repulsed, and the enemy held the hill if that charge had not been made. Far be it from me to impeach, or in any way detract from the valor & bravery of the other regts engaged. All I ask is your honored justice. I have, perhaps, been too independent in regard to this matter & have not taken sufficient pains to correct the erroneous impression, that has gone abroad. That, it seemed to me, was the duty of the Brigade Commander. It is due to the 136th, that it should have all the credit to which it is justly entitled. If it is withheld, it takes away that emulation which would otherwise impel them men to displaying similar valor & bravery under similar circumstances. Col Underwood has already been promoted for gallantry in that action. Col Smith, for the same reason, was recommended for promotion by the corps Commander and the Commander of the 11th & 12th Corps. Col Underwood was my junior in rank. His promotion, is due in part, perhaps, to the severe wound he received; and for that reason, I suppose, I ought not to complain that he is promoted over my head. Col Smith was in Command of the brigade, and it may be claimed, that ~~that~~ the credit of the operation of the brigade, legitimately belong to him, and that his promotion is a commendation of the whole brigade. But Col Smith has resigned & left the service, without waiting for his promotion as recommended. That occurs to the 33d Mass. all the honors of the engagement, and I submit, leaves the inference fairly deducible, that this Regt. exhibited more valor & bravery & performed more brilliant & dazzling services than the other Regts engaged; particularly is this so, when it is observed that the promotion of its Colonel, puts him over his seniors in rank & supports the impression which prevails that 136th N.Y.V. did not take part in a charge which has been specially noticed by the Maj. Genl. Commanding the Department, as being one "of the most distinguished feats of arms of this war"

In view of the consideration herein presented, and such other reasons and considerations ~~that may~~ as may ~~present~~ occur to you, I respectfully request, that by a communication in writing, you recommend me for promotion to the office of Brig. General, putting it in such terms as will bring it within the provisions of General Orders No. 111. War Department. (Aug 15th 1862) I should be highly gratified, if in the recommendation reference could be made to the night action of the 29th of October 1863 in such terms, as would induce the appointing power to date the Commission (if one was granted) and the rank under the same, in that day, that it might be to me and those who come after me, a memento that I participated in that action.

I have the honor to be
General
Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt.

James Wood Jr Col
136th Regt N.Y.V. Comdg
2d Brig 2d Div 11th A.C.