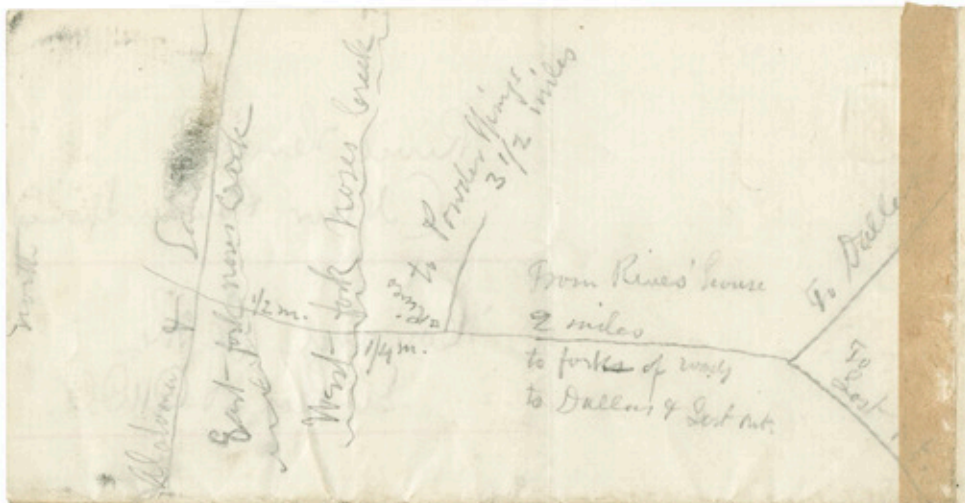


[June, 1864?]

At Rives' House

34

Gen.l

As Gen. Kilpatrick suggested that the Infantry take the Dallas road I send you information obtained of Mr. Rives, and a sketch showing that there is a fork of the roads here, the left leading to Powder Springs 3 1/2 ms. and the right (or as it appears the straight road) makes a fork 2 miles from here where the right leads to Lost Mt. and the left to Dallas.

Gen. Baldwin's head of column has just come in sight and I suppose will go on to Powder Springs unless you order otherwise. But if you wish him to change his plan and take this right hand road & go on towards Dallas this way an order would probably reach him before he had got more than a

mile on the Powder Springs road - Kilpatrick seems to have no difficulty in that quarter

Respy
O. H. Howard
A.D.C.

Rivis House
(Near Powder Springs)

Howard, O. O.
Lt Col. A.D.C.

Gives information concerning reconnoissance towards Powder Springs. Also concerning Genl. Kilpatrick's operations.

these operations are necessarily much prolonged and there is a degree of uncertainty attending them, but I have confidence in God that all will be rightly. The weather is very hot and very dry day after day and no rain. We have at last really got into the swamp south. We are encamped in a wood. My tent was our only and that we gave to Stinson - Lieutenants & I put our robes on the ground under a tent fly and when the rebels will let us, we sleep very well. Give my love and sympathy to Mrs Stinson - Gilbreth is well. Sam is well tell Julia I continue his good care of me - I am hoping strongly that the present campaign will end the war and I pray for it. Gen. Wood talks to me of his home - He has lost his only child and his wife is very dear to him - Charley is writing to Mother - but when you see Mother and Jamie Mahaney tell them I am well

Headquarters Fourth Army Corps,
Department of the Cumberland.

New Dallas Ga. June 2nd 1864

Dearest - I was lucky enough to receive three letters from you last night just as I was lying down for the night. Marked 19th, 21st & 23d of May. I am glad you received my telegrams from Resaca and hope you did another after Captain Stinson was wounded. The Newspapers part in things without mercy - At a severe encounter near Pickett's mill, I received a slight bruise from a piece of a shell and my little toe aches some yet, but the thickness of the sole of my boot and

a kind Providence saved me from a serious injury. Not so with hundreds of other poor fellows. Capt. Stinson is cheerful and is doing well. The staff takes turns in staying with him. Wilbourth did so last night and I have not heard this morning how he is. The Dr. said yesterday his appetite was good & had no fever. The ball passed through the upper part of the lungs below the shoulder, going quite through him. We have met the enemy here in heavy force. Not being successful the first morning in dislodging the enemy from Dallas, the two armies faced each other and intrenched. There has been a great deal of fighting sometimes one army attacking sometimes the other but as yet without any decisive result. Before this reaches you something will occur. Capt. Wilbourth has returned & says Stinson is brighter than he has been at all. As soon as he is able we will send him at least to Cleveland. Not great he may pretty recover I do think he will. Chester is quite well. I am very much injured that they know how to act upright. But "let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." At times I have gone very, very far astray. May God forgive me and never visit my sins upon us in our children.

Hd Qrs 4th Corps New Dallas, Ga.
June 4th 1864

Dear,

I am detaining an officer about to start for Chatt.a to say that we are well. My little toe aches some but is no serious trouble, about as much as a corn on the foot. Capt. Stinson continues to do well, is cheerful and happy. French Lieut. stayed with him last night. He proposes to go to Cleveland & Tenn. as soon as he can. I say nothing of our operations because of the liability of capture. Billy is in prime health and spirits. Much love to all the children. Good bye to you all.

~~Your~~ Much love

Otis

Chas. Much love. Have lately met Colonel Curtis wounded. Kind regards to Isabella.

Near Acworth Georgia
June 9th 1864.

Dearest.

My boys have been so changed in position that communication which was distinct for a few days has been reestablished. The enemy left our front last Saturday night and retired toward Atlanta so that we had quite a comfortable Sabbath. I say this for my command occupied forest works in place about 25 paces from those of the rebels and constant firing was kept up for several days. The men are neither sick could wear about without exposure. I was only a spectator of the engagement they held & supposed but my boys had to stand it & bear

the Dr. says Capt. Stinson is standing the ride well.

S. Have we Perquimilis men in 19th? I never heard you say them so on evening entirely!

floor faithfully scrubbed and now present quite a respectable appearance. The men are resting today - supplies are coming up. More work is before us, but I trust the same strong arm will carry us through, the same that has given us support thus far. Gen. Sherman is rather tight with Army correspondents, so that you do not hear as much from us as from the Army of the Potomac. Operations here are on a very extensive scale - leaving much room to buy. Grace, Jennie, Chaney and yourself. I hope they are all well. Papa remembers them all in his morning & evening prayers. May Grace never forget to pray for Papa, that he may have wisdom to do right. Give kind regards to Isabella & tell us about Charlie - Sam is well tell Julia - hasn't got to Atlanta yet, but we are on the way thither since Atlanta. I hope Mother gets Charlie's letters. Heather is not quite well. Write - God bless and keep you all - Lovingly Otis

very much exhausted. My command has been in action at Dalton. Resaca, Adairsville, Kingston & Cassville and near Pickett's mill between Dallas & Acworth. We have worked very hard & sometimes lost heavily. The wilderness here is almost uninhabited. There are, however more farms here than near Dallas; perhaps averaging 1/3d cleared land and 2/3ds woods. All the cultivated land or nearly all is sown with wheat or rye or planted with corn. The people nearly all leave on our approach. The poor are an exception. They stay in fear and trembling. No negroes are left. The country must be thickly settled south of the Kattahoochee. I had a telegram asking about Harry Stinson, from the Sec. of War, this morning. Fortunately, telegraphic communication had just been established and I went up to Acworth on a visit to Gen. Sherman. While there the telegram arrived and I answered it at once. It must be Blaine Morrill who is inquiring through the Sec. of War. Stinson has had no drawback, always is cheerful and pleasant, has good care. Today he is being moved to Acworth, which I dread I am anxious to have him so he stood the journey due consideration at 10 d. He must be more time - for his bed could be pushed right into it, so that he would be very little disturbed by the transfers. As soon as the bridge is done and the cars can come here he will be sent to Cleveland E.T. or Chatt.ga. where he will remain till able to go home. We regard him as out of danger. Give my love to Mrs Stinson & tell her the above. So noble a worthy, so blameless a young man as Harry Stinson will not be neglected when disabled. Letcher, Frank & Gibbette are well. We are now stopping in a nice little abandoned cottage, Sgt. Peters - Have cleaned it out, & the

Augusta. June 8th 1868.

My Dear Papa

I have not got any Writing book. Mamma said I might write you a letter. Jamie goes to school every day and has learnt to pronounce read nice. Miss Woodward says that he will go to college. Jamie can read pretty like a big boy. Cousen Mary and Cousen Lizzie go to school every day. some day Miss Woodward and I are going to see them and then we all are going to all the cascade. I suppose you know where that is becaue you used to go to school there. Papa dont forget My birthday which will come the 22d of this month I dont expect you will send me a present. but if you can send me a letter I

should like very much to receive it. I stood chancey up against the wall this morning and he walked right to me. please to write me soon

Goodbye
from
Grace

I will just write, Dearest, that we are all very well here. Grace wrote her letter at School. Guy is now going to take it to the P.O. on his way to School. We are feeling sad about Harry wounded. Glad he is on his way home. I don't think you are wounded in the foot or at all. although the papers last night said so.

Ever your own
Lizzie

Brunswick June 8th
[1864]

Dear General

It is just a year today since with much regret I bade you adieu at our beautiful Hd. qrs. near Brooks Station. It seems a long time since I was in the midst of exciting army movements, but my interest in what is transpiring has not abated. One can hardly think of anything else. I go through my daily routine of College duties, & try to be faithful, but my thoughts are often with you in Georgia, or with Grant in Va. What a month the last has been! Hard fighting, and a moment's rest, and his regards and thanks for your kind notice of his wife. Be prudent & take all precautions. Give my regards to all my friends.

There is general satisfaction with the results of the Convention, & no fear is felt about the Election of Lincoln & Johnson. The people are more united than ever, & the work done for the Army increases from day to day. I am all the time engaged supplying the place of some minister who is absent in the service of the Christian Com. — just now Mr. Pike! of Balt.

Your last letter reached me a few days ago, having first gone to Brunswick Mo. instead of Me. Please write next time Maine.

Your transfer to the 4th Corps settled all my expectations of returning to your Staff.

The bell will ring for my recitation in 3 minutes and I must close with a hearty God bless you all C. W.

terrible destruction of life on both sides; but the blessing of God seems to rest upon our cause. Our two great armies appear to be gaining ground every day. Banks has made a sad failure west of the Miss., but whose Canby will repair the loss there, as Hunter has Sigel's blunders in West Va.

We have been told that you were wounded lately, near Dallas, in the foot, one account says seriously, another slightly, the last I hope is the true story. We cannot afford to lose your services now even for a short time.

And as to Stinson I am yet in doubt. One account is that Major Stinson of 5th Maine is mortally wounded, & another that Capt. Stinson A.D.C. to Gen. Johnson is the man. I hope to hear that our Capt. S— is yet safe. How sad our losses have been in Officers. It is hard to realize that Sedgwick has fallen. But I will not dwell on this dark side of the times. The army has fought nobly, and no part of it has done more hard work, or gained more honor than our old 2nd Corps. You have seen how Barlow goes ahead, & how Hancock is rising. He was named for Vice President at Baltimore, but the preference for Johnson of Tenn. was so strong, that Hancock's friends did not urge his claims.

Head Quarters 4th Corps Near Acworth, Ga.
June 10th 1864
House of Mr Peter's

Dearest.

We are all quite well. Capt Stinson doing nicely, will probably be able to get to Cleveland Monday or Tuesday next. We go towards the enemy this morning. The papers say very little of the 4th C.C. but it has worked hard and fought hard. I received the 4th C.C. dispatch this morning and felt as though we should cut down their intrenchments but that is a people we cannot go unchastened.
Give my love to the children.
God bless and keep all this precious household.

Lovingly
Otis

Martinsburg Va
June 11. 1864

Dear General,

With the greatest feelings of sorrow did I notice that you and Capt Stinson were wounded in one of your late engagements. The papers state Capt Stinson's wound is dangerous but that yours is not. I hope the latter is so and also hope that Stinson's wound is not so serious as represented. Even a momentary disability from taking part in the operations I know will annoy you very much, but it was

Sincerely hoping that further success will attend your untiring perseverance and that you will not lose the services of so amiable and valuable an officer as Capt Stinson to whom and Lt Col Bowman I wish to be remembered

I remain General
as ever yours
with sincerity
T. A. Rhymsburg
Maj

fortunate that during your hard fought battles you came off with comparatively little injury.

General, you can not afford to lose much more, than you have already done for your Country's Cause and it is my sincere wish that you will be spared from any further suffering, although a wound in the foot even if not dangerous is in most cases painful.

Undoubtedly you have heard before this of our disaster at Red Market which altogether was a small affair. The enemy had decided advantages in position and number the latter especially.

Genl Averitte has been more fortunate in not meeting with much opposition. Genl Lyle seems to be unfortunate of late for which I must say I am unable to account. His constant hard working has affected his health too to such a degree, that he has been suffering for three weeks. Genl S. who has the very best feelings towards you, General, desires me to give you his compliments, and his best wishes.

If your Secretary should have an opportunity to send the books of the 11th Corps, I would ask you to address them to Martinsburg, Va. so that I can send the whole papers & books together.

Head Qrs 4th Army Corps

Near Marietta Ga

June 12th 1864

Dearest – I feel it necessary during this campaign to write with a pencil – I received your letter mailed 8th ult. You have just got my note from Dalton – I hope that after we march well through the Allatoona range of mountains we should have open country, but no, we are in an interminable wilderness – there is an occasional little farm in a clearing with a small windowless log cabin.

Yesterday we came across a family of (6) six very pretty children. The mother & their little boy had sown a couple of acres of wheat & planted some corn – our soldiers had taken nearly everything – our animals eaten & destroyed the wheat & much of the corn. She talked to me and cried. Her husband is in the rebel army – but she and the little ones

did not bring on this war. Oh, how much misery & suffering, grows out of this rebellion. Would God it might have an end. Johnston appears to be making a stand this side of Marietta. The men work up to him very cautiously. His lines are often five or six miles long and sometimes longer. For two or three days we have had continuous heavy showers. Now it has set in for a long storm. I have not had a tent since we gave Capt. Stinson our only one, till night before last. A gth. Who had on hand of my chestnuts kindly sent me one. It turned in my cot & slept on the ground - but Capt. Kalenbaugh & Powell & Mangall had me another made. They (my staff) wont let me share the hardships with them. It is so necessary to have few wagons they every body is obliged to retrench. Henry Stinson sent me his horse from Cleworth. He goes home through. He expects to go to Cleveland today. He has not yet had an unfavorable symptom. His perfect health, good habits and cheerful temper are all in his favor. The model man is waiting for me. Give much love to Guy. Grace, Jamie & Chaney. Now he creeps & plays with Guy's football" and "now he sleeps quietly serenely in his cradle", all sweet home pictures. We pilgrim in the wilderness pray for the end of the war & home. My kind regards to Isabella. Also tell Julia that Sam is still faithful & well.

Remember me to all our friends. Lillbetta & Charles are in good health. God bless you all

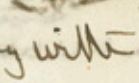
Lovingly, Otis

when I don't seem to get the blessings I hoped for & prayed for. I require a good deal of patience as well as endurance to command troops successfully. Charley is quite well. Has been for escaped shot & shells. At our mess we have Col. Sherman 85th Ill. from Chicago. He is now my Chief of Staff. We have a handsome, good stable young surgeon, my medical director. Capt. Fullerton is my Adjutant general, formerly with Gen. Granger, Lieut. Capt. Gilbreth & Frank Litchman. We often have very pleasant reunions i.e. at breakfast, dinner & supper. We breakfast generally at 5 A.M. Sometimes we are compelled to do so earlier still. The news from the army of the Potomac is still uncertain. Grant is not yet quite up to where I buried my own. He has much hard work before him. If regular siege operations begin I fear he will send troops out here. Hope Father & Sallie are well. Much love to them. Robert, Fanny, affectionate son. Adin

150

Head Quarters 4th Corps June 12th
Near Marietta Ga. (Sunday evening)

My dear Mother

I have just come back to my tent from tea. My tent is the only one. We not arrange a tent fly for two or four. We take our tea under a fly fixed thus:  When you locate us in the midst of a big forest you form a good notion of the whereabouts of your boys. This is a very woody country. very few farms. an occasional clearing and a log cabin often without windows. We shall find more open country southward after crossing the Chattahoochee. We had very beautiful weather till lately. Now the rains seem to have set in. The roads are getting very bad. The army wagons are heavy and when some (200) twenty miles of them pass over a road drawing a train, it is generally

rendered nearly impossible. Such is the case just now. Should we may have spoken of my wound. It amounted to just as much as a stone bruise used to when I was a little boy & ran about without shoes. It was been painful & troublesome but not enough to prevent me from sitting every day. The piece of shell struck me on the side of the right foot near the little toe spending its main force against the sole of the boot which is quite thick. At first all the toes were discolored. but after a couple of days the little toe only was troublesome. Capt. Stinson sends his love to me this evening from Acworth. It was shot quite through the body, but has suffered very little pain and has had no drawback. The cars will probably take him back tomorrow as they are now through. The rebels are in large force in our front probably seventy thousand strong. They work hard, dig long lines of intrenchments (bien & six miles in extent) under the cover of these almost interminable forests. The breastworks is usually first made of logs & then dirt thrown on the side towards us. We get as near them as we can without sacrifice of life and confront them by the same kind of work. Thus:

. I have left a part of the logs uncovered. Sometimes the men arrange a huge log with a narrow opening beneath to keep the enemy's sharp shooters & skirmishers from hitting their heads. You may imagine that such serious business keeps every face within doors. On the contrary the majority are light hearted. It is like all work you get used to it. At times it is painful. Fatiguing in the extreme and affecting for every operations but. the seems huge changing. Our subbatches are not well improved and stand the need of better ones. Notwithstanding reliance upon God is unwavering though & are heavy hearted sometimes

U. S. Christian Commission.

Kentucky Branch

Maj Gen Howard
Commanding 11th Army Corps
Army of the Cumberland

Dear Sir

A number of the ladies of our city are desirous of forming a society for the purpose of doing all in their power to relieve the wants of our soldiers now in the hospitals and camps here and to assist the Sanitary and Christian Commissions in their labors of love. They find quite a prejudice existing among our citizens against both Commissions owing to reports which have been very industriously circulated to the effect, that the stores so contributed do not reach the common soldier, that members of the Commission use their facilities for political and other selfish purposes and sometimes engage in immoral practices. In fact that both are humbugs in the largest sense of the word and are not worthy of the support of Christian people. There has been very little done in Kentucky for these Commissions

owing to the fact that the workings of the same have been very imperfectly understood. A strong prejudice has grown up here among the Government officials against them, especially against the Sanitary, and reports emanating from these officials are hindering contributions of money and stores to their treasury. What we desire is to remove these prejudices as far as we may. To fully succeed our ladies must have the hearty co-operation of our people and their confidence. A well organized society here will go far towards opening a general system for our State.

My object in writing to you is to ask as a favor that you will at once write our commission a statement of your experience, especially as to the work of the Christian Commission among your men and as the opportunity may offer obtain like testimonials from other officers and forward them to us. Our ladies are only waiting your response as a basis upon which to act.

We feel that we are asking a good deal of you but know that a Christian heart will not fail to respond to such an appeal.

With much respect I remain

Yours truly

J. Edward Alvey Chairman

Ky Branch U. S. Christian Com—

Louisville Ky
June 17/64

My dear daughter, Leeds June 9. 1864

Your last letter written the first of the week, I received in due season, but have let company and and other duties keep me from answering it, and I learn'd to day that Mrs. Lotter=of has butter packed for you and has been ready a week or more but the information failed to reach me until now, I am happy to receive the children dear Guy and Grace, and only wish that I could take the butter to you, and bring them home with me, but do not see any way to do it, at one time my husband said he would go to Augusta in June but since has thought better of it, and concluded he could not, he thinks Guy and Grace would come through well in the Cars, I was in hopes Grace would spend her Seven'th birth day here but that is so near, she will not probably do so,

I have just been talking with my husband and he says he has learnd nothing about the barrel of potatoes if you have be kind enough to mention it in your letter after the reception of your butter, or if you would like have the butter kept in Mrs Lothrop's Sellar until fall, My husband says it can go Wednesday I will endeavor to get it and have it packed in a bag of dried apples, you ask where was Rodelphus, he is at Auburn studying Law, in Pulsifer's office, he was out through May, Introducing Text books into the different towns in Androscoggin County and Franklin County, he made well by it and will now be able to pay his own bills for some time, I feel sometimes to almost fly, I want to see you and the Children so much, how is Jamie now, is his health good, and little Chauncy, is he healthy? I do not feel quite equal to going alone to Augusta with the horse and Waggon, our harness is poor, and the waggon is not much better, I have not seen Ella and David since my return from End, Howland wrote me, you mentioned you would like to get a place for Martha, if you cannot do any better I will take her in Sept. if you think best, tell Isabella to be sure and come and see me when she comes home, My last letters from Charles, was dated the 4th. of June, all well but Maj Stinson, Dellie told me that Joe. Wiggin had a letter from Mrs Stinson saying he would come home, I do hope he will recover,

Give much love to all the Children, and Isabella accept a good share yourself

Your's &c. E. John

Mrs Lizzie Howland

Head Qrs 4th A.C. 2 miles from
Marietta, Ga. June 20th 1864

Dear,

We are making rather slow progress but the country of swamps, mountains, creeks, impassable rivers & the like is exceedingly difficult and ill adapted to any but our mode of warfare and that is a skirmish on a large scale. As soon as the rebels get into a bad box they take up a new line often by changing front and we skirmish through the woods up to them and get just as near as possible and put the batteries in position and so on. This is constant work. If you should hear the firing any day you would think a great battle was in progress - but we have learned that it is only a skirmish. Good many poor fellows get wounded in these skirmishes. I was very happy to

532

receive such a nice letter from Gracie yesterday. I must try to write her in reply on her birth day (the 22nd inst) — "How much can happen in 4 years".
Well darling I must go to my daily work and as we cannot work through time fortified him. Don't believe the papers. I was not on the Stinson line when my foot was hurt but in my proper place. While here Wood's Division was hotly engaged. I was reconnoitering for a point of attack when Harry Stinson was hurt.
Stinson is now at Cleveland doing well. Gilbertie has got his promotion. Frank Gilman has gone sick to Chatta. Mother you all Stinson is in good spirits and at Mr P. Springer's where he will get the nicest kind of care. I feel truly into good hands & hope he will soon be back well. Sorrow Much love to all / Yr. Obt

Camp of Battery H. 5th U.S. Arty.
Nashville, Tennessee.
June 20. 1864.

Major General
O. O. Howard:
Dear Sir;

You will, doubtless, recollect the conversation that took place between us at Stevenson, Ala. in the early part of last October, when you kindly offered me a position on your staff. I was there about starting for the East, on sick leave. At the expiration of my leave, I was relieved to report to Major Ekendemir U.S.A. at Augusta, Me. where I have been on duty, up to the last of May - when I was ordered to join my Batty. in the field. I expected the battery was at the front, and made all arrangements to enter upon the duties of active service. I am disappointed in finding the battery at this place. It is stationed here - with other regular batteries - in the Artillery Reserve. I am desirous - if agreeable to yourself - of being placed now, upon your staff. Should you be pleased to request that I be detailed for this purpose, I have no doubt the Commanding

ing General will issue the necessary order. It would afford me no inconsiderable pleasure to be with you, General: as will myself - and my friends - would even consider it a high personal favor.

If anything should - if possible, this may be accomplished - I have the honor to be, General,

Very Respectfully & Truly Yours,

Joshua A. Fessenden
2d Lt. 5th Arty.

Head Quarters 4th Corps
June 22nd 1864

Miss Marietta Georgia

My dear little daughter.

I received your excellent letter yesterday; no the day before and was very glad to hear from you and home. We are leaving very constant and hard work just now — and I can get pretty tired. The rebels made an attack upon Gen. Howers front this evening but without success. They came down the same on Hooker's command but had to go back. The shells burst about us quite briskly nowadays and make a good deal of noise but seldom hurt anybody. Your Mr Donald who has been with

me for nearly three years was
wounded today in the foot
and I fear he may decide to lose
it. A Signal Officer & Capt Howard
on my staff also was wounded
by a sharp shooter while sending
a message. Papa remembers this
as your birthday and thinks
you are seven (7) years old
today. Papa was in Florida
when you were born at Beaufort -
He found you in a cradle at
Auburn on his return. Kiss
uncle Tom to Mamma. My compliments
to the rest. Uncle Charlie
sends love to Mama and the
rest of the family. Papa hopes
this war will soon be over
so that he can go home and
enjoy your society. May God
bless and keep you

Your loving father
O. O. Howard

Head Quarters 4th C.C.

Near Marietta Ga. June 25. 1864

Dearest. It is about 4 P.M. Saturday I have not written since the coming of the 22nd and then to Grace as it was all the birth day present I could send my little daughter from here. The mail is just in and leaves again tomorrow morning. Probably you wonder at our slowness of progress lately. Gen. Sherman does not appear to be in very great haste. We will turn or break the enemy's line, but first he has prepared another. He has held on to Kennesaw & gradually swung back his left till we face nearly east. We have had a battle or grand skirmish nearly every day — cannonading is now going on near Gen. Palmer's lines. Mine are comparatively quiet: today though the rebels occasionally destroy some valuable lives. We heard from Capt. Stinson

534

through Mr. Merkle (of Hays's clerk) who has been with him since he left Acworth. He was doing finely last Tuesday afternoon. He has ridden out on horseback and his wound is almost healed. His convalescence is remarkable. I shall advise him to take a trip home. He thinks he ought to come back. Frank Lilman is at the officers hospital on Lookout Mountain and I hear is doing well. He was very feverish when he left us and I feared the typhoid fever. I am anxious to get more direct word. Gilbert has got his appointment as Captain and received his commission. He is very well and enjoys himself finely. Charles seems to have very good health this summer. He has got a Marion paper of the 16th and tells me the news: "Mr. Ch. Stowe received quite a reception" He speaks of the few men who returned out of the thousand I took out three years ago. It is costing us heavily to prevent the distruction of the Republic. Sometimes I feel a little discouraged but I fully believe God will carry us through this severe trial in his own good time. If we only could acknowledge Him and leave off our unbelief and our idolatry and our sinfulness. I try to do my duty daily and beg for his hand to sustain and strengthen me. He does not always grant me the measure of success I long for and my heart is saddened by it, but I understand the sufficiency of his wisdom and must submit to his chastening. I must now go out to look at the hires. God bless you, darling, and give you wisdom and strength; and the little ones, we commend them to his care.

Your loving husband
Otis

P.S. Stowe is well —

Headquarters Fourth Army Corps,
Department of the Cumberland.

June 29th (New Hamptn Ga) 1864

Dear Mat -

I will just drop you a line this morning to say that we are all quite well. Yesterday several assaults were made upon the enemy's works on our front of my Corps but Hooker Div'n & Cleburne - Gen. Harker was mortally wounded within a few yards of the works - We lost quite heavily in officers and more men than we ought to spare in an unsuccessful assault. The weather is very hot, and I fear it will be hard on our badly wounded. Lieut. Lee is at Chatt.a convalescing. He tells of his coming back as he does not get an appointment and he fears it will be burdensome to me to pay him. I cannot well spare him and shall try hard for his appointment. I think he has had a hard year. Capt. Stinson was

recovering rapidly when I lost heart from him. Mr & Mrs Craigmiles took him right home and nursed him at Cleveland. We are hoping to hear some good news from Grant. His losses are very severe indeed & ours are considerable. It is a high price to pay for the government, but the blessing will follow. Poor Mr. Barker was much beloved an upright, straightforward complete soldier - and a thorough gentleman. I cannot realize that he is really gone - He used to be a member of my prayer-meeting, I think, while at West Point. Perhaps you may remember him. Several mails have come in without a letter from you, dearest, but the mails are so irregular here that I am not surprised. We have just had stronger infantry guards put on the express trains of the R.R. so that we may now anticipate operations regularly. I am afraid Guy will forget his prefix if he does not write him once in a while. I feel very hopeful for Guy that he will be a conscientious good boy "fearing God & keeping his commandments". But he will like all boys have a great many temptations to resist and will need a Saviour's help constantly. The help of that same Saviour that he and I used to talk about when he was a very little boy. He being the eldest will do a great deal towards shaping the character of Jennie & Lebanon who almost before we know it will be large boys - Lucie is quick and even clever for herself and must be the grace of the household. We owe to love & be loved by all - Time has come for the heart to learn. - Good bye and keep in all -

Your ever loving husband
Otis

Leeds June 29th 1864,

My dear daughter,

A feeling of intense anxiety about you and your family has seemed to possess me the few days past, and just now, I resolved to try writing to you and if your health is poor, or aught else has befallen you, cannot Isabella write so that we may know how it is with you. I have felt such a strong desire to see you we know how you all are, that it is but one ideal with me, your letter mailed 14th I answered the answer it was sent to Curtis Corner Monday ~~the~~ 20th of June I had just heard that Mrs Lothrop had been packing butter for you, and wrote you to know whether you would have it kept till fall or sent now, I have seen Mrs Lothrop since, and found it was only 25 (twenty) (pounds) Mrs Lothrop said it was packed so I have been hoping to see Guy and Grace by this time, I want very much to see Jamie, and Chauncy

give much love and many kisses to your children and my best regards to Isabella, does she know anything certain about Joseph,

Your's with much affection

Elisa Gilmore

Mrs Lizzie A Howard

What it contained first & last page.

Rowland has been gone to the congregationalist Conference since the 20th of June, I am in hopes they will return through Augusta and I shall hear from you through him and Ella, when will the Children come? I did ~~not~~ not mention in either of my letters that my husband's ~~health~~ health had been poor, for he is much better and I feared you might think the children would away him, and would not have them come, and I want to have them come very much I am very lonesome my husband is attending to his affairs as usual yesterday morning he went to Slabb City, to get some blacksmith work done and in the P.M. went to Wayne to carry away his wool, and now he is repairing his tools for haying, I have look'd every day for a week for a letter from you I had a double letter from Otis and Charles, last Friday Evening, written the twelth of June, Mailed the 15th all well at that time, and Capt Stinson doing well at that time, my husband does not like to Eat away from home because he sometime's throw's up two or three times, before he can manage to keep anything on his stomach, but of late he looks better and is in better spirits, and intends going to Portland the 18th of July to a Meeting of some kind concerning the railroad. Rodelphus wrote me he might come home next Saturday, and stay until after the fourth, if he does, and Guy and Grace have not come, I will see if it will not be so that he can come for them I do hope you will get this, in due time, and I shall hear from you soon as practible, I mention'd (about Martha, Julia's oldest Girl) in my other letter I do not think it a very good place for her here on many accounts, but if it would be any relief to you I will take her any time I have a home well provided with comforts of life and I will take her untill some better place presents, these things I only suggest, I close it is nearly time to send my letter to the office

one rocks. In a half hour all was quiet and we undress and go to sleep. We have become so accustomed to danger that matters go on with perfect business like composure. Our lines are close. Last night one of Stanley's men called out "some rebs. stop firing let us go to sleep" the answer back was "all right" and immediately the firing ceased. This was not far from where the working party was attacked and the opposing lines were firing though not very briskly. Last night during the melée a rebel captain lost his way and stepped from his picketts to ours without knowing it and began instructing our men when they took him and brought him in. He was much mortified. My letters must be irregular for a time. I have sent to Atlanta to have some play for wounded to go to Frank Coleman who is still there is to deliver it and send to your order. Give much love & many kisses to the children. Hope you found Father better and Mother well. Tell me already you wish to hear if you must. Stanton was nicely at last accts. Capt. Gilbreth is very well & happy. So is Chandler. With kindest love and the same prayer for us all. Ever & ever may keep us safely from harm. Lovingly Otis

Send a note to Mrs. Woodman and ask the boys name. It will give Warren great pleasure.

Headquarters Fourth Army Corps,
Department of the Cumberland.

New Marietta, Ga. June 30th 1864

Dearest – I have just received your letter of the 20th inst. You were not well, worn out, with too many to care for and didn't feel that you had been faithful in anything. I feel very strongly and heartily sympathize with you, but think it is now ten days since she wrote and she may be rested and happy now. I can heartily forgive myself for having tired you so with J. & the children and the first opportunity you have you must let her go to some place where she can learn a sixteen who is physically stronger

than you. and who has less other cares.
I expect that grand little boy, Chauncey,
must spoil you down much - but my
darling wife, while I appreciate to a keen
degree the heartaches and burdens and loneliness
of your anxious life during these days, I
must say to you as I often have to say
and put them behind us, a cloud to them
the bright sun - When you need rest
darling take it with all its direful
consequences, take it even if things get
out of place. I am obliged to do so.
~~The~~ army of the Potomac has absorbed
the public attention and the
accounts of this army's doings are
much overshadowed, but for con-
stancy of fighting I have never seen
the equal of this campaign. My own
corps has lost in killed and wounded
and missing in action upwards of 5000
(nearly 6000) men since we began
work before Dalton. Last night about
2 o'clock A.M. a tremendous musketry
fire started up - We all got up & dressed
artillery opened - How fearful this would have
been at the beginning of the war, but
now we quietly sent out scouts & officers
to see where the firing is. The rebels
had attacked a working party that was
running a new line in front of