
2240 8/1/1864 *From:* Unknown

To: Unknown

OOH-2190

Source: Bowdoin

[5]

U.S. Military Telegraph

By Telegraph from Press [Aug] 186[4]

New York. Gunboat Ft. Morgan from Mobile 16 arrived. Our Gunboats & Iron clads are near Mobile but no attack been made.

St Louis 27. Official information still puts Prices main forces at Fredericktown with this advance at Farmington. The main body is estimated to 12000 strong principally Cavalry. The advance consisted of about 4000 all mounted. Light attacks were made on Pilot Knob & Ironton which were easily repulsed. Precise plans are yet undeveloped but he seems massing his forces in Arcadia Valley.

Gen Mower with strong force Cav & Arty is still moving northward. Considerable <cadie> troops arriving Militia are responding to Call of the Commanding Genl.

A rope walk Corner gold and high streets burned last night & very extensive quantities used by Govt also consumed.

Sandy Hook Steamer City of Balto Liverpool fourteenth passed here. Spanish ministry resigned.

Grimes argues that the Chicago Convention will lead to peace.

Liverpool cotton slightly depressed Consols 88 ¼

Washington Navy Dept recd intelligence from Farragut of successful expedition up Fish River. He has removed 21 torpedoes.

New York Gold 195 ½

Commercial Washon special says several prominent Georgian Refugees now here are confident that some kind arrangement will soon be effected between Gov Brown & Gen Sherman whereby Ga will secede from the Confederacy.

30

2241 8/4/1864

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2191

Source: Bowdoin

Head-Quarters
Department and Army
of the Tennessee
Near Atlanta Ga.

[563]

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee
Near Atlanta Ga. Aug. 4th 1864

Dearest,

I received a letter from you yesterday dated July 24th. It was ten days in coming. I feel very anxious about father. I did hope Dr Hill would have given him some encouragement, but it seems not.

Sam is always glad to hear from Julia. He says, he has not seen Julia's mother but heard from her & her sister Martha and that they were well. He has seen her brother 'Bob', working for a Captain in the 33d New Jersey. This Captain was wounded and 'Bob' went home with him. He was well and doing well.

I feel sorry about the church, & suppose this direct providence was to rebuke covetousness and I hope all the people will give liberally to rebuild the house of the Lord.

I am now in charge of one of our large armies. I hardly realize the fact. The aggregate in the Department & out of it belonging to the Army of the Tennessee is some 140,000 but the proportion at this point is quite small. But it is dangerous to tell one's wife any secrets because of the accidents which sometimes put letters into the Enemy's hands.

The country about Atlanta is very woody. Our lines extend more than half around the place at a distance off of a mile & a half or two miles. We are obliged to find the rebel lines and work up to them, but if the country dont get impatient we will get them out in time. Today may settle the matter. Gen. Schofield came to my right yesterday. He continues to shew himself an able officer and a warm friend to me. Gen Hooker, dissatisfied with my promotion, has left the field. Perhaps I should say dissatisfied that he was not assigned to this command.

I hope you will not be too anxious. A kind Providence has had us in His keeping ever. You will have to learn a lesson that I have been slow in digesting, that is to work by the hands of others.

I am very well now in every respect. Charles has been a little unwell, but is now better. I am glad the children have had so good a time at Leeds. I can imagine the abundance of Jamie's quiet joy as he looks at the lambs and other objects of interest at Grandpas. It must have made you feel quite young to have been so long with only Chancy for a companion. Gracie and Grandma must have had a much joy and who knows how much knitting & sewing Gracie learned. Guy seems to have traveled & can doubtless write papa about Farmington, Leeds & Bath. Give them one & all papa's love.

In a few days this campaign will probably be settled, and we shall see what then will follow.

Pray for me, darling, and be happy. With Gods blessing we shall be reunited before long. Give my kindest regards & sympathies to Isabella.

Lovingly
Otis

2242 8/5/1864

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2192

Head-Quarters
Department and Army
of the Tennessee,

Source: Bowdoin

[564]

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,
August 5th 1864

Dearest,

There will be some days probably in which I cannot write you from location, but am hoping for the best of results. Chas took a hasty letter to you, on his way to Louisville, Memphis &c. News from father up to 17th is terrible - can eat no more. God bless him.

I have blotted my page & am sorry but will let it go this time.

I am very well, so is Capt Stinson & Gilbreth. I heard from Chas. at Chattanooga on his way. He was well. Rowland thinks Grace rightly named. She is so gentle & loving. She had visited him & he was going to take her back.

I cannot realize that I shall see my father no more. Has'nt he been a good father to me always! But it is perhaps better that I should not see him since his change. I wish I could see you all tonight, Lizzie, Guy, Gracie, Jamie, Chancy. Are they all well & happy?

I heard from you thru Blaine. He warmly congratulates me on my promotion, reputation &c and argues for me a Brigadiership in Reg. Army. I am not at all concerned provided we are successful in preventing a destruction of the Republic but I shall be favored enough in the Army & out of it. Now is the time to think only of putting forth our whole strength. God has indeed given me a hard task to perform, but I am still hopeful, that he will bring us through the fire purified & blessed.

I see the rebel sympathizers in the North are actually organizing & arming themselves. I am thunderstruck with the audacity & wickedness of these men, but am glad to see the cloven foot. It is far better to deal with an open enemy than a secret traitor.

Give my kind regards to our friends at Augusta & much love to the little ones at home. My heart is often with you. I do not feel burdened with care & anxiety, but have become used to my work. I shall however rejoice with exceeding great joy when we may see no more of our poor fellows wounded. May God have you in his holy keeping. Did you receive a check from Chattanooga?

Lovingly
Otis

In haste

Sam is well tell Julia.

2243 8/5/1864

From: Sarah J. McDonald

To: General [OO] Howard

OOH-2193

Coventry

Source: Bowdoin

[120]

Coventry Aug 5th /64

General Howard

Respected Sir

There is rumor that my husband Edwin McDonald is dead. It came from a soldier on the Potomac but I cannot put confidence enough in it to believe it & I thought you would know wether he was living or not. I have not heard from him but once since he was wounded & that was the next week after he was wounded & you will confer a great favor to forward a few lines for I feel very anxious to hear from him.

Yours Respectfully
Sarah J. McDonald

2244 8/10/1864 *From:* H.M. Halleck

To: Col C H Howard

OOH-2194

Wash'n

Source: Bowdoin

Western Union Telegraph Company

To Col C H Howard
Augst [10?] 1864
By Telegraph from Wash'n

Troops must not be taken from the Mississippi River without first communicating with Genl Sherman & Genl Canby both understand.

H.W. Halleck
M G & C

2245 8/10/1864

From: F.D. Sewall

To: General [OO Howard]

OOH-2195

Source: Bowdoin

A.A. Provost Marshals
General's Office,
Hartford Connecticut

[117]

A.A. Provost Marshals General's Office,
Hartford Connecticut,
Aug 10th 1864

General

It was with much pleasure, that I learned of your assignment to the command of a Department. I only write to congratulate you, and to express my gratification that the merits of a personal friend, and the services of a brave and Christian Officer have been acknowledged and rewarded.

May the blessings of God attend you, and the grace of our Lord and Savior be multiplied and increased in your heart.

I also desire to thank you for your great kindness to me. I owe my present standing in the army to you. I shall never cease to remember your kind instruction and advice.

Please remember me kindly to Col. Howard.

Yrs. Very sincerely
F.D. Sewall

2246 8/11/1864

From: Nelson A. Miles
Brig Gen US Vols

To: Dear General [OO
Howard]

OOH-2196

Hd. Qrs. 1st Division
2nd Corps

Source: Bowdoin

[118]

Hd. Qrs. 1st Division 2nd Corps
August 11th 1864

Dear General:

I am delighted to learn by the papers that you have been assigned to the command of the Department & Army of Tennessee, and allow one who has the highest esteem for you, both as a General-benefactor - & friend to congratulate you on receiving such a command.

I presume you have learned ere this that I have received the promotion for which you kindly recommended me. My rank dates from May 12th – the battle of Spotsylvania where my brigade was the first to go over the Enemies works in the assault and capture of twenty pieces of artillery and about four thousand prisoners by the 2nd Corps. General Barlow is at present absent on account of the death of Mrs Barlow, the loss of his wife is a severe blow to him.

The old Division & original Corps are very much changed since you were here. I think I am about the last of the old officers. Very many have fallen in this campaign. Poor Harry McKean my most intimate friend was killed at Coal Harbor.

General I would like very much to have a command under you - although I have, I think the best brigade in this army, (of eight regiments at present only twenty-one hundred strong) yet I would much rather serve under you than any other General.

If there is any command, or position, for which you think me qualified to fill in your army I should be most happy to be assigned there. Hoping that this may find you well, & to hear from you soon, I remain

Very Truly Your Obt Servt
Nelson A. Miles
Brig Gen US Vols

[Written on back]
Nelson A. Miles
Brig Genl U.S.V.
Aug. 11 1864

2247 8/11/1864 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2197

Source: Bowdoin

Head-Quarters
Department and Army
of the Tennessee
Near Atlanta Georgia

[56]

[Letterhead]

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee
Near Atlanta Georgia Aug. 11th 1864

Dearest,

Since I last wrote you we have been digging up nearer & nearer to Atlanta. The city is near by and can be seen from various points. The country around Atlanta is almost a wilderness, and very rough. The rebels have a single line of communication left to them, which, by forts & intrenchments, they have thus far managed to protect. The news comes to us through Prisoners that Mobile is in our hands, which is very good if true. I was in hopes the campaign this year would commence by taking Mobile. Better late than not at all.

I heard from you en route to Farmington. Mother wrote that Grace had gone to see you as you passed through Leeds. I could imagine the meeting at the cars. Jamie is getting to be quite a traveler, already acquainted with Leeds & Farmington.

The news is now confirmed of our having full possession of Mobile bay, Forts Powell and Gaines having surrendered. I hope before this reaches you, we shall have better news still. The terrible conflict at Petersburg is sad to contemplate. God grant that this struggle may soon be over.

The rebels are now putting forth their utmost strength and bad men at the North are helping them all they can. It will require great fixedness of purpose and endurance on our part to carry the war on to a successful conclusion and I hope I do not forget that it requires also the blessing of God to make success real.

Gen. Hooker left the Army because I was assigned to this Department, so that you need not be surprised if my name is now and then associated with considerable abuse. I do not think the new responsibility will weigh very heavily upon me. At any rate I propose to take everything quietly, meet every difficulty as it comes and not anticipate unkind emergencies. I did feel worse than I meant to, when the Cin. Gazette said Chancellor's ville disaster, was due to my neglect. I think that came from a member of Gen. Hooker's staff. The commercial the next day kindly & <finely> took my part. I dont think Gen. Hooker will be foolish enough to attempt to raise himself by depressing me. It matters little to me, for I have only my own duty to do.

Capt. Stinson is perfectly well, so is Capt. Gilbreth & Charles. Capt Beebe, Jeanny's cousin has gone home sick. He was indeed a fine young man, able & & upright. He will probably be made Colonel of an Ohio regiment.

It is said Miss Hoffman of Phila when she saw the teleg'ic announcement of McPherson's death fell speechless and has been in a very bad state ever since. McPherson told me, he could'nt get time to go on & be married. She is with her mother in Baltimore. Her mother is secesh, her brother in the rebel army. She keeps the Union flag over the mantel in her room. God bless him and comfort her affliction.

Give much love to Guy. I must have a letter from him before long. I want him to love truth as he does his eye. Much love to Grace. She will be like her dear Mamma. Jamie and Chancy must have a kind word & a loving kiss from papa.

A great many big guns are making music for us, but there is no battle.

I commend you all to God's holy keeping.

Lovingly,

Otis

We hear from home often thru Dellie. We are very anxious about Father.

2248 8/13/1864 *From:* J.G. Blaine

To: Maj. Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-2198

Augusta Me

Source: Bowdoin

[119]

Augusta Me.
13th Aug / 64

My Dear Genl

Your promotion to the Command of the Dept and the Army of the Tennessee has been hailed by your friends and the public with profound satisfaction. Enviably as was your record before, you have added to it immensely by your masterly conduct in the trying & splendid campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta. Not to detract from others I should say today that on popular esteem Grant, Sherman, Howard & Hancock stand a niche higher than any other General in our service.

As I rarely write you without asking a favor you will not be surprised to have me prefer a request of that kind now.

My nephew, Frank Stanwood, (son of Mr Jacob Stanwood) now a 1st Lieut 3d U.S. Cavalry is very desirous of more active service and would be especially gratified if he could have a place on your staff. I feel the most profound interest personally in the matter, & if you could find it in your power to give him a place with volunteer rank of Capt or Major, you would be conferring an inestimable favor upon me.

He is a good officer - well educated, brave and discreet and I should esteem it a great piece of good fortune for him to have the opportunity of pursuing his military training under your eye. Can you oblige me in the matter? Lieut S. is now at Carlisle Barracks but you could readily have him transferred.

I saw Mrs Howard today. She is very well.

Most Truly Yours
J.G. Blaine [Senator from Maine and ex-Governor of Maine]

Maj. Gen. Howard

P.S. The last conversation I had with the President just prior to Adjut of Congress, he as good as told me in so many words that he intended appointing you a Brig. Genl in the Regular Army. If you desire it I presume it will not be long before you will be made a Maj. Genl in same.

JGB

Kind regards to Maj. Howard & Capts Stinson & Gilbreth of your staff.

2249 8/15/1864 *From:* Charles Hamlin

To: Major Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-2199

Washington

Atlanta, Georgia

Source: Bowdoin

[121]

[Letterhead]

Headquarters Inspector of Artillery, U.S.A.
Washington,
Aug 15 1864

Dear General:

In view of the appointment of a Surgeon Genl. the Medical Staff Corps have urged my cousin Lt. Col. A.C. Hamlin Medical Inspector U.S.A. to present his name to the President. The result of the movement seems to be this: the President will make the appointment and all that is needed is to swell the list of the names of those urging the appointment so that the President may be sustained in making it when the public presume he ought of course to give the nomination to Barner or to some one of the old flock.

Thirty Senators including Fessenden, Morrill, Wilson, Trumbull, Doolittle, Chandler, Cowan, all the Medical Directors of the West & South West, the Medical fraternity of Philadelphia & Norfolk, backed by every Vol Medical Officer of the Department, Secy. Blair, Prof. Bache, Henry Agassiz &c &c have given him letters.

In an interview with the President he told the Doct. to make his case as strong as he can. We have the impression that Hammond the Surg. Genl. will not be disposed of until after the November election but still it is desirable to have the matter determined as soon as can be.

Now a recommendation from you, Genl., will be of great weight with the President, of value to the Doct, and gratefully received by his friends, and if among your present arduous duties you can find time to enclose to me a letter to be added to the others named above I shall be deeply obliged.

I write you without the knowledge of my cousin.

I am General
With respect
Truly yr friend
Charles Hamlin

Major Genl O.O. Howard
Atlanta, Georgia

P.S. Please give my utmost regards to Charley. Direct in care of Genl. A.P. Hane Inspector Arty U.S.A.
C.H.

2251 8/17/1864 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: Dearest [OO Howard]

OOH-2200

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[39]

Augusta, Aug. 17th 1864

Dearest

It is now nearly tea time. I am waiting for Guy to bring the mail but as he has gone to the "Mill" also with a little boy and will not be back for some time I will begin the letter I wish to send by to-morrow's mail. I received your good long letter dated Aug 4th yesterday morning. It was a long time on the way. I oftener get them in nine days, and then once in a while a letter will get here in eight days. I was very glad to have you speak of yourself – your health. I am indeed glad and thankful that you are so well. I hope Charlie is quite well again.

Guy came home from Leeds last Friday in the train. He came alone. That same day Mrs Stinson and I took a ride to Winthrop. We went in season to take the cars for Lewiston, where we arrived about twelve o'clock. We walked to Dr Wiggins where we stopped a short time at the door. There we separated to meet again at three o'clock, at the Depot.

I called and dined at cousin Franks. She was away with her baby Grace, but Aunt Betsy was there and I was very glad to see her, and Uncle Alden [Whitman]. I visited Major Whitman and family – cousin Lucretia has five children. I heard from Aunt Lucy. She has entirely recovered her health. I was sorry not to have seen Uncle Hicks; he is not at all well. One of his knees troubles him and he is quite thin and lame. I met quite a number of friends at the Depot.

Dr. and Mrs Wiggin send kindest regards to you. We said 'good bye' to them when the train arrived and returned to Winthrop where we found the carriage and after a pleasant ride of two hours arrived at Mrs Stinson's door, where I found Guy, who arrived at four o'clock, and Jamie, waiting for a ride. That night I did not get to sleep till two o'clock. I was so very tired, almost sick the next day.

Sunday morning I went to Church after making a strong effort to start. I am as well now as before I started. Mrs S. has gone away for two or three weeks.

Guy says that he would like to have stayed longer at Grand-ma's. I do not think he comes home very well. He seems to have exercised to much for his strength. His leg aches as when he has been running very hard. The leg the carriage ran over at Auburn, the same day you were wounded. He commenced his school last Monday. He has Geography, Arithmetic, Reading, Spelling, French exercises, and is beginning Latin and not English grammar, with drawing and writing. I think this full enough for him. I tell Guy I will study Latin with him. The school seems pleasant to him and I hope he will have a good report this term.

Grace does not say anything about coming home and I can just as well let her stay through the warm weather. Mother is quite alone and I presume prefers to have her stay as long as she is contented.

Thursday morning. I have only Julia and her children with me now. Isabella went home yesterday to go to school. Now if I only had an old maid friend to come and stay with me for company I should be all right. I get so lonely. Uncle Edward's wife has a sister Mrs Jackson living with them. I am going to write to her, asking her to come and stay with me. I dont feel that Chancy needs a great deal of care, but there ought to be two where there are so many children to wait on. Isabella is an excellent girl, but I would as soon have some one else. She may come back, in ten weeks, or after school. She would rather come here than go anywhere else away from home.

I am anxiously waiting for you to get through at Atlanta, and at the same time wondering where you will then go. I had a visit from William Merrick one morning last week. I presume he is now at Farmington. I must ride down to Hallowell and see if any of the family are there. I have not been down since Rowland & Ella were here. I received a package of money by express last week. I want this letter to go this morning but I fear it will not get to the P.O. as Guy has gone to school. I try to have breakfast earlier than I have been in the habit of

having it. The children wake about six and then we get up. I have to go to bed earlier in order to do so, but it is well I do for I have injured my eyes reading, writing, and sewing so much by gas light as I have the past year. I dont think I am worth much anyway. I wish it was not so far out to mothers, so I could see her often. Sometimes I wish you would let me break up house-keeping and again I wish you had a permanent position somewhere where I could be with you.

Evening.

Dearest. I left my letter unfinished this morning and will now almost ten o'clock add a few lines. Mrs Wingate was here this afternoon said Aunt Fanny is with her, will visit me next week and will go to Leeds. Dellie wrote Mr Wingate on business and said his father failed very fast. Guy said he got sick town-meeting day, but that was all I could learn by him. Guy wished to write you, but night came too soon for him.

Love to Charlie and yourself from your own
Lizzie

2252 8/17/1864 *From:* Th. J. Wood

To: Maj. Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-2201

Source: Bowdoin

Head Quarters 3rd
Division, 4th Army
Corps
Near Atlanta, Ga

[122]

[Letterhead]

Head Quarters 3rd Division, 4th Army Corps
Near Atlanta, Ga, Augt 17th 1864

Dr Genl:

I avail myself of Genl Hazen's going to you leaving today to report for duty to send you a few words of greeting, salutation, and congratulation.

I have been anxious since you left us to make you a visit, but, though we have not been doing much, have not felt authorized in the attenuated condition of our lines and the possibility that we might at any time be called on for some service, to go so far from my post of duty. I trust you will find ample reason in this explanation for my not having called to offer you my congratulations in person on your elevation to a higher command, and to assure you of my hearty gratification at the distinguished success which has so far attended you in your new position. Please accept them now.

You have my humble, but sincere, earnest prayers for the continuance of your good fortune, with the supplication that you may be blessed with health and the capacity to render much valuable service in the future to our country. And having rendered such service, may you receive, in ample measure, the reward so dear to a true soldier - the acknowledged approbation of our countrymen, and a large extension of your present well-earned reputation. "He who like the soldier suffers, should reap rewards as well."

I regret much losing Genl Hazen, but could not be guilty of the selfishness of interposing my convenience in the way of his advancement. So far from this, I not only cordially approved his application for the transfer, but did all I could to have it granted. I trust he may be able to render much useful, successful, and honorable service in the position to which he will be assigned. I will be glad to see you at my headquarters whenever you can find it convenient to call.

Pray present my respects to the members of your staff with whom I have acquaintance.

Very truly your friend,
Th. J. Wood

Maj. Genl O.O. Howard

2253 8/18/1864 *From:* Ella [Howard]

To: My dear sister [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2202

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

[566]

Farmington Aug 18th [1864] [The year was written in pencil.]

My dear sister

I should have answered your kind letters before, but some one has been sick, & I have been kept otherwise employed ever since I received them. Rowland has had two attacks of Summer Complaint the last of which has been pretty severe, & he is by no means well yet, though he went to Leeds this morning. He has not preached for two Sabbaths. Last night, Dell wrote that his father was growing rapidly more feeble, & that his stomach was entirely closed, so that he could swallow nothing, & could take nourishment only by injections of beef tea, & such liquids. Rowland wanted to see him very much, & though he was not really able to do it, went down this morning, lest he might defer it too long. Grace has been here two or three days, and went back this morning.

I have heard nothing from Mrs. Munger, and perhaps she has given up the idea of having Alice. I find in talking with Alice, that she feels very badly to think she may have to go away. She got the idea from the children some way, that I was going to send her to Leeds, & I found her crying about it, & took occasion to talk pretty plainly with her. She says she has been here so long that she don't like to go to a new place. I told her that so long as she did well I should never send her away, but that I could not get along any longer with her bad temper, & unless I could see that she was trying to overcome that, I couldn't keep her. I think if I can only have patience & firmness, for a year or two, that she will come out a good girl, but the ordeal seems rather severe, I confess.

I think Julia judges her rather too severely. I don't think there is any real bad, in Alice, only as any child would be led away by a "gay & festive" youth like John Ivory! And I don't believe but Julia put her up to talking about him too, for I have made particular enquiries of the girls at Bath, & I don't think she has ever mentioned him there, and she has never been willing to go out into the street at all, when there, even on the Common, with Dadie. It seems at present, as far as I can understand my duty, to be my duty to keep her - at any rate, as long as she continues to do well. When she wont do well, I shall have to let her go. I was quite surprised to find she wanted to stay. I am very much obliged to you for your kindness. I must say I don't want to hear the word "Contraband" mentioned!

How are the children now? Grace seems nicely, and very happy. Wm. Merrick & Sam are coming here tomorrow. He is at Rangely now, with the Abbott party. We were going, but Rowland was not well enough.

Julia's visit did Alice good I think. Rowland will write a line to tell you how his father is, after he gets back. Dadie is not very well. I have cut his hair, & he looks like a real boy now. Goodbye.

Your Sister
Ella

2250 8/15/1864 *From:* Albert B. Otis

To: Maj. Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-2203

Belfast, Maine

Source: Bowdoin

[123]

Maj. Gen. Howard:

I intend to enter the Cambridge Law School in two weeks.

If you have anything considerable for me to do, I will gladly defer my plan.

Yrs respectfully
Albert B. Otis

15th Aug. 1864
Belfast, Maine

2254 8/19/1864 *From:* Lucia L. Curtis

To: Dear Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-2204

Marshfield

Source: Bowdoin

[40]

Marshfield Aug. 19th 1864

Dear Gen. Howard:

Can you with all your responsibilities listen a moment to a note from your cousin, Lucia Leadbetter, that was. I have been married nearly two years, and have always opposed my husband's going into the army on account of consumptive tendencies. He has, however, about decided to try it. Knowing nothing of military life he, of course, will have to commence as a private and I feel that the hardships may be too much. The thought has occurred to me that perhaps you can give him a better chance - a clerkship or something of the sort.

I believe him competent to fill a responsible place. He is a young man of good moral and christian character or I would not take this liberty. Should it be in your power to confer this favor will you oblige

Your affec. Cousin
Lucia L. Curtis

2255 8/19/1864 *From:* Elisha B. Curtis

To: Major Genl. [OO] Howard

OOH-2205

Marshfield, Mass.

Army of the Tennessee

Source: Bowdoin

[41]

Marshfield, Mass. Aug. 19th 1864

Major Genl. Howard
Army of the Tennessee
Sir,

With the introduction in the accompanying letter from my wife I beg to intrude upon your valuable time. I did not intend that she should ask a favor of you without first making plainly evident my character and business qualifications. To this end I sought to obtain a letter from E.S. Tobey Esq. I am unknown to him yet I doubt not he would willingly speak from the representations of men in high standing in the business community. Owing to his absence from home I could not procure his testimony. I have been connected as junior partner with a house on State St. for 5 or 6 years and am familiar with accounts, correct, and can execute any reasonable matters committed to my charge. Should you reply to this please address me at my home in Medford, Mass.

Very Respectfully
Elisha B. Curtis

2256 8/19/1864

From: A.C. McClurg
Capt. & A.D.C.
Head-Quarters 14th
Army Corps,
Department of the
Cumberland
Before Atlanta, Ga.

To: Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2206

Comdg Army & Department
of the Tennessee

Source: Bowdoin

[124]

[Letterhead]

Head-Quarters 14th Army Corps,
Department of the Cumberland,
Before Atlanta, Ga. Aug 19th 1864

General

General Johnson, who is still upon the extreme right with Genl Schofield, directs me to state to you that his entire front extending over two & one half (2 ½) miles is now held by three brigades only, the remaining brigades having been drawn out of line last night, under the orders of Genl Schofield, and sent to the extreme right as a support to the cavalry. This renders his line so extremely weak and attenuated that he deems it unsafe to attempt to move it forward unless he can send back troops to strengthen his left. This he hopes to do this afternoon. If so he will notify you and will cheerfully co-operate with you in your movement.

I have the honor to be, General,
Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt &c
A.C. McClurg
Capt. & A.D.C.

Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard
Comdg Army & Department of the Tennessee

[Written on the back side in a different hand.]
McClurg, A.C.
A.A.G. 14th A.C. Aug. 19th 1864

2257 8/19/1864 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dear Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

OOH-2207

Source: Bowdoin

Head-Quarters
Department and Army
of the Tennessee,
Near Atlanta Ga.

[179]

[Letterhead]

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,
Near Atlanta Ga. Aug. 19 1864

My dear Mother

We are very well this beautiful morning and the lines are comparatively quiet. I suppose Charles has told you all about my new command. These changes do not modify my duties much at present. It only gives a little larger command & hence more responsibility.

All your accounts from Father give me a great deal of anxiety on his account. He has always enjoyed such excellent health, that it seems hardly possible he can be so poorly. I hope things will take a better turn than the Drs. predict and that he will yet be well. Is he cheerful in spite of the depressing influence of his disease. He must now be looking up with a prayerful spirit to enable him to endure all things & be prepared for the rest of time & for eternity. Father never said much on religion to me. I hope in his heart he can rely upon his Saviour. God grant, if he cannot, that he may be able to do so.

Probably Guy & Grace will have left you by the time this letter reaches you. I hope they behaved well & afforded Grandma a great deal of happiness. Jamie seemed to be having an ill turn when Lizzie last wrote me. He was better, however, when she closed her letter, than when she began it and I presume it did not amount to much. We are West & Southwest of Atlanta, but the rebels do not seem much inclined to leave that famous city. They have had a force of cavalry on our R.R. but were driven off, and now repaired in less than two days. I hope there will be good news for you before this reaches you.

Give my kind regards to Roland & family, also to Oscar & family and Capt Turner. How is he. I expected to find Warren Lothrop in this Department, but think he is in St. Louis. Does his mother ever hear from him? How are Uncle Ensign & Laura and the baby? I am glad Dexter has reached home and hope by this time that he is completely well. Charles & I have written his new regimental commander in his behalf - as he is a very fine man & good friend of ours. I am hoping he will soon get him promoted. I left his name with the Governor with a request that he would remember him as one able & worthy.

I dont think Dellie's choice of Albany as a place for study a good one. I dont think much of Albany or Troy. The shrewdest lawyer & ablest in Troy was known to be a very immoral man and it now strikes me, I would rather go to any school in New England than there. Give my love to Dellie. If Rowland or Dellie should be drafted I should regret the fact that I have no Maine regiment in my Department. I will help them in getting substitutes provided they get good ones.

Give much love to Father. I hope this will find him well. Is George Bates at home? And how are they on the Hill? I would write you oftener, but Charles seems to write more easily. Harry Stinson is completely well and with us. I try to pray for you all daily, and very much need your earnest prayers in my behalf that I may ever act wisely and uprightly.

Your affectionate Son
Otis

2258 8/21/1864 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2208

Hd. Qrs. Army of Tenn.
Before Atlanta Ga.

Source: Bowdoin

[566]

Hd. Qrs. Army of Tenn.
Before Atlanta Ga.
August 21st 1864

Dearest,

Charles has been sent to the Valley of the Mississippi via Louisville on duty and I am going to send this note by him to be mailed as far north as possible. I hope you are very well this beautiful Sabbath morning. The Episcopal church is probably the nearest for you during the interregnum in your own. Perhaps Mr McKenzie has found a place to preach in.

The enemy appear to be firing quite rapidly with Artillery this A.M. on Gen. Schofield's front & to our right. I was in hopes to have a quiet Sabbath. Last Sunday we had services at 5 P.M. & had hardly got them under weigh before the enemy opened on our lines with musketry & artillery. The Chaplain came to me to ask if he should close. I told him to go on but to be brief. A novel way of shortening sermons. We had a very pleasant service in spite of the rebels. Our lines are close together, so that the men can fire in many places from one to the other and firing does not always indicate a battle.

An old lady who has a place as nurse in the 16th Corps Hospital came in to see me the other day & said as she sat trembling in my tent "what a battle there must be going on" but it was simply a cannonade such as we often have without results.

I read a letter from Rowland & one then from Dellie last night. Father seems to be growing poorer. I feel anxious & sad about him. I wish something could be done. I hope Jamie got over his ill turn without getting much sick. Rowland mentioned his being unwell after he got home & so did you. In my new duties I do not find thus far any increase of labor. I offered to make Capt. Stinson Major & judge advocate, but he prefers to remain as he is. He & Capt Gilbreth are well.

Guy and Grace must begin & write me. I am very anxious to have them. I will answer every letter as soon after I receive it as I can. Does my black eyed boy remember me. Rowland thinks Chancy very amiable. Give much love and many warm kisses to the children. Charles is waiting for the letter. God bless you my darling.

Lovingly
Otis

2259 8/22/1864 *From:* C.H. Howard

To: My dear brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-2209

Source: Bowdoin

Head-Quarters
Department and Army
of the Tennessee
Chattanooga

[125]

[Letterhead]

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee
Chattanooga Aug 22, 1864

My dear brother

I arrived here about 8 P.M. today after a good many delays. Came through with a Regt. of 4th Corps going out of service, so I was pretty safe. The Conductor was very polite giving me his blanket & place in the Caboose. I took supper with Gen McArthur - who feels that his command is hardly adequate especially to protect from Marietta to Vinings. I shall leave here tomorrow at about one P.M. I found Capt. Monroe A.A.G. with whom I took supper. Capt. Norton was making a call & has not yet come in. I was over to Hd. Qrs. A of Cumberland this evening & saw Capt. Cist. He says Gen. Steadman is going up the R.R. towards Knoxville with some 4000 men tomorrow morning in hopes to catch Wheeler who is reported between the Hiwassee & Little Tennessee & unable to get out on acct of rise of water. I guess he will manage to get out however when he finds Steadman in pursuit. Steadman is to have some of John E. Smith's troops.

Cist says people hereabouts are much disgusted at Hooker & Palmer. He says also that you have left behind you in the Army of the Cumberland the best of impressions. I am rather pleased to hear of Gen. Jeff C. Davis' success but sorry Gen. Wood gets nothing.

Everything is orderly here. Capt. Monroe expects a Leave.

While I think of it I will mention Sladen's case, 1st - His name should go on the Hd. Qrs rolls for extra pay - entitled to 4 cts per day at Hd. Qrs. Geographical Deptmt & Sladen's mother is dependent upon him for support. It will be a great help. 2nd/ I hear that the clerk now in A.A.G. Office (the red-haired boy) is a 3 month's man & goes away soon, if so & it will insure Sladen's promotion as he already knows a good deal about the business. If you can spare him sufficiently he might at least spend a part of his time there. If we could get him a commission in the 33d or any other Regt, it would do just as well & better as then you could always keep him for your own individual use.

I am rather sleepy. Dont think Gen. Steadman makes so good a Post Commander since he has combined the District. Many drunken soldiers & not altogether as I like here in Chattanooga.

I feel very anxious to hear about Kilpatrick. Please write or let some of the young men (Capt Stinson) to Memphis. I will at least get it on my return if I go to Vicksburg.

Col. Morgan and his negro troops got great credit at Dalton.

Affectionately
C.H. Howard

P.S. Capt. Cist would like to be on your staff.

Chattanooga
Wed. 23d August 1864 - 6 a.m.

Incidentally I learned last night that Lt. Col. Bowers, Gen. Grant's Adjutant General held the commission of Judge Advocate of this Deptmt when he was assigned as Corps A.A.G with rank of Lt. Col. Capt. Monroe thinks he has never resigned that commission & in fact, as you know, he could not (unless he received some

other) without throwing him out of his Lieut. Colonelcy at the same time. I think this is the secret of Capt. Hickenloper's not getting the appointment as Judge Advocate. And until Lt Col Bowers resigns it will be useless to apply for any one to receive the commission. I am inclined to think Lt. Col. Fullerton would like to join you in that capacity - holding his com. as Maj. & A.A.G. but doing the Judge Advocate duty. Or if for the best there is Col. Sewall, also already holding a commission. Fullerton told me he should leave the 4th Corps & if he could not join you thought he would get a place at Washington. If he would like it, knowing you so well & you him & being at once available, I feel as though it would be wise to give him that duty until there is a vacancy to which some one not in the service can be appointed.

Affectionately
C.H. Howard

2260 8/24/1864 *From:* CW Asmussen

To: Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2210

Source: Bowdoin

Headquarters
Twentieth Corps,
Assistant Inspector
General's Office

Comdg. Dept. of Tennessee

[128]

[Letterhead]

Headquarters Twentieth Corps,
Assistant Inspector General's Office
August 24! 1864

General,

I have made an application for an appointment as Assistant Adjutant General of Volunteers, basing it upon the following ground:

"Holding a commission as captain of a company, which will be mustered out of the service in a very few months, I would ask for an appointment as Assistant Adjutant General of Volunteers, to enable me to remain in the Inspector Generals Department, in which I have served so long, it being necessary to have a commission in the Army or Volunteer force, before I can thus be assigned. I make this application, as I do not desire to leave the service, which necessarily I must, when the company is mustered out, and I ask for this appointment to enable me to remain in that particular branch of the service, to which I have devoted nearly two years."

"Referring to the enclosed recommendations as well as to officer, under whose immediate supervision I have served, I remain
&c &c"

Will you please send me pr. bearer the promised recommendation to accompany this document? I have the promise of a strong endorsement at Dept Hd. Qrs. Cum. I also ask you to speak for such an endorsement for me at Genl. Shermans.

Awaiting your answer pr. "Boug", I remain, General,

Your obedt servt
CW Asmussen
Lt C of all Insp Genl
20th Corps

Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard
Comdg. Dept. of Tennessee

[Written on the last page]
Lt. Col. C.W. Asmussen
Aug. 24th 1864
Answered

2261 8/24/1864 *From:* Tayler Lewis

To: Maj Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2211

Union College
Schenectady

Source: Bowdoin

[127]

Union College Schenectady
Aug 24 1864

Maj Gen Howard
Dear Sir

Your former kindness makes me bold to ask another favor of you on behalf of my son Capn Charles F Lewis. He is now home, suffering from the effects of a chronic <hemrhoid> and a sun stroke which he received near Dalton. After being in the hospital a short time, he went back & was in the severe engagement on the 20th of July under Geary. His health after that demanded some change, and so he returned home. He is now better, and is longing again for the military life. I have made the strictest enquiries after my dear boy, and find in all things, a favorable record. Although barely 20 years old he has seen two years hard service. He was badly wounded in the arm at the battle of Chancellorville, where Col Peissner fell. He afterwards went with you to Cumberland army, had a share in the fighting in the fall near Chattanooga, was with you in your East Tennessee campaign and has been in most of the severest fighting since the army started in May for Atlanta. He was at Buzzards Roost, Resacca, Dalton, and in the battle of the 20th July. He was with Col Lloyd of the 119th when he fell.

My son has since received a commission as Major, one in the 178th, and again in the 119, the regiment to which he belonged and which Col Peissner raised. In both cases the regiments were so reduced as to make the commission of no actual avail to him.

He is desirous now of obtaining some position on a Generals staff, where there would be equal exposure in battle, and less of health. It is my strong desire that he should succeed in this, since military life seems to be a passion with him, and I cannot persuade him into my own taste for books & study. Could there be such a position on your own staff, it would greatly please me, and I know of no other place for him that would make me so content with his being in the army. Or could he obtain, through your influence, some similar position elsewhere. I have made sacrifices, heavy ones, in this most righteous cause, but I am astonished at the spirit displayed by our young men. Purer patriotism, I think, never existed than in this ardent boy of mine; and I feel quite confident that he would not dishonor any effort you might make for him.

I endeavored, three years ago, to get him a position at West Point; but my politics were not Democratic enough to suit our member of Congress. I hope my son's two years hard service, may compensate for the want of such military training as he might then have received. I hope, too, it may not be deemed out of place, in urging such a request as I am now making, to state that my own father was in the Revolutionary War from Bunker hill to Yorktown, and I wish Charles to inherit the Cincinnati diploma.

Pardon me for troubling you with so long a letter and believe me
Yours with high respect and esteem
Taylor Lewis

Maj Gen Howard

[Written on the back of the letter]
Taylor Lewis
Union Col. Schenectady N.Y.
Aug 24th 1864

2262 8/24/1864 *From:* C.H. Howard

To: My dear Brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-2212

Galt House
Louisville Ky

Source: Bowdoin

[126]

Galt House
Louisville Ky
Aug 24 1864

My dear Brother

I will send a few lines tonight although I have no answer as yet from Gen. Halleck. The telegraph operator said he would send it at once and that was two hours ago. I found that there was a rule that the telegrams to the Departments at Washington be prepaid, so I prepaid that one – amounting to \$43.05. I can get the money of the Qr. Mr. Dept when I return. If I get my pay here, I shall have funds enough.

I saw Kiensle at Chattanooga & found he had been waiting several days for transportation. Capt. Mourn told me of a good deal of trouble he had had about transportation so I went to see Capt. Smith A. Q. M. I found him (Smith) gentlemanly & he said that there were no privileges granted to the Army of the Cumberland in those matters not granted also to the Army of the Tenn. and that it was certainly false that your order was not as good with him as Gen. Thomas!

One important fact entre nous, Capt Mourn A.A.G. Deptmt Tenn. at Chattanooga has evidently had a quarrel with the Army of the Cumberland people. I could tell you all that was said in the matter by Smith & by Mourn himself but it is not worthwhile to write it. If I were you I would allow Capt. Mourn to have the Leave I wrote to you about. In this way without censuring him in matters in regard to which it is doubtful if he was much to blame, the way to have everything go smoothly between the two Departments may be provided. I do not think it advisable that the Officer at Chattanooga have the power to give your orders for transportation & other matters except under certain general specified rules.

Capt. Smith has written instructions direct from Gen. Sherman – a copy of which ought to be furnished you.

I feel very desirous that in your future arrangement of these things that you will not refer to my report in the presence of Col. Clarke but that you act as if you knew the state of affairs & without giving your source of information.

Capt. Smith said Kiensle should go the first car that offered & seemed astonished that Kiensle with such an order had been compelled to wait. We fortunately (Norton & I) reached Nashville in season to take the morning train for this place. I have mailed Gen. Sherman's letter & those you gave me.

I searched for McDonald & found that he entered Hospital No. 2 at Chattanooga June 26th & they have no further record. They seemed somewhat chagrined that they could not account for him & were to continue the search & report to Capt. Monroe who will send to you. I do not believe they will find any record and I think the matter ought to be reported to Dr. Cooper.

Report here that the Rebels have Cumberland Gap. I think it very probable. I will get away tomorrow.

Affectionately
C.H. Howard

If you have any further orders or will write me a letter, you might direct Care of Capt Miller Galt House Louisville Ky or Care Gen Washburn Memphis Tenn.

2263 8/25/1864 *From:* N. T. Stratton

To: Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2213

Mullica Hill N.J.

Source: Bowdoin

[129]

Mullica Hill N.J. Aug. 25, 1864

My Dear Genl

I was highly gratified on reading your letter to Col. Buell in regard to the lamented Genl Harker. In behalf of his family I tender you thanks for this noble tribute to so brave and patriotic young officer. You state "that you do not know his family or you would try to write to some of them" I will mention that his eldest brother Jn. G Harker, a sister Mrs. Lt. Frank H Cobs, and a widowed sister Mrs Emma Norman (a member of my family) all reside here. A second brother Wm. is at Macomb Ill. Asa & James B Harker, merchants at Portland Oregon & the youngest sister Mrs Dr. Wm. K Smith at Salem Oregon. It would no doubt be very gratifying to all of them if they could get but a line or two from you in regard to the Genl. but especially may I ask you to write to Mrs Smith. The Genl. had educated her and she loved him so dearly. I have just received letter from her acknowledging receipt of my Telegraphic Dispatch concerning his burial.

Genl. Harker was an officer that I have always as proud of as I could have been of an only son.

During a service of four years in Congress from 51 to 55 a vacancy occurred in the Academy at West Point. I was solicited by many personal and party friends for the appointment but I had made up my mind to give the position to some orphan boy if I could find a proper one willing to accept of it. I had entertained the highest regard for the father of young Harker in his life time, for when a friendless boy he had taken me by the hand and spoken words of hope and encouragement and my mind turned to this youth then a promising boy of seventeen years – his father and mother were then dead. The position was offered to him and accepted with many thanks. How well he deserved the position your noble letter most fully proved.

When the telegraph announced his death, I took the earliest opportunity to obtain his body. While I was in correspondence with the Secy of War & Senator Sherman, I received dispatch informing me that Lt. Lamb of his staff was en route with his remains & to meet him at the Continental July 9. My family with Mr Jno Harker met Lt. Lamb at the appointed time and returned home with the remains same day. The funeral was held next day Sunday. He was buried in my family lot in the Episcopal Church burial Ground at the place beside my father & mother. I send you a slip from our County paper containing a notice of the career of young Harker. It speaks the feelings of the community where he formerly lived and was so much loved.

I had kept up a regular correspondence with him since his connection with the service and was always anxious and willing to aid him in any way in my power. When after the Battle at Murfreesboro his superior Officer joined in recommending him for promotion being in Washington attending to my son Capt Stratton who had lost a leg in the service. I called upon Mr Lincoln & stated to him the history of this brave young man saying that he had no personal & political friends to press his claims and away from his native state he could not command if disposed to do so the influence so much required now a days to obtain promotion – but that I only asked him to consult the Official Reports and see what he had done. The President said that if the statements I had made in regard to him should appear to be correct he would ask Genl Halleck to report the same to him and a commission would be made out for him as soon as there was room.

It was for a long time delayed after the President had sent the nomination in to the Senate. I had called the attention of our Senator Tom Eyck & also Senator Sherman to it on the 4th Apl. & on the 7th the confirmation was made. Senator Sherman always wrote of Genl Harker in terms of the highest regard and no one more deeply regrets his early death.

I had charge of his financial matters here and had taken the liberty to say to Lt. Lamb in the absence of any instructions from his brothers on the Pacific Coast that any disposition of his property or effects there which his judgment would suggest would be satisfactory in my opinion. I expect to receive some definite instructions in a very short time. It may be that he has left a will, but of this I have no information. Near a year ago I lend \$900 to his brother Asa. The amount was near \$200 over what was then in my hands but he expected to make a

remittance he said in a short time. I understood him to say that he had made some arrangement with his brothers in case he should fall in battle in regard to his property.

I should be pleased to have a letter from you if you find leisure.

I am dear Genl. Very Truly yours

N. T. Stratton [Nathan Taylor Stratton, Member of U.S. Congress, 1851-54]

Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

[Newspaper clipping attached]

(We are obliged to our young friend, F. F. Patterson, Esq. For the following truthful and beautiful biographical notice of the young and gallant soldier, whose death the country mourns.)

THE LATE BRIG. GEN. HARKER

It was the writer's privilege to enjoy the early and continued acquaintance and friendship of the late Gen. Charles G. Harker, who fell in defence of his country mortally wounded, at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain in Georgia, on the 27th ult., while heroically leading his command in an assault on the enemy.

He was born at Swedesboro, Gloucester County, in 1835, and at the time of his death had just attained his 29th year. His father, the late Joseph B. Harker, Esq., died when the subject of this sketch was but six years of age, leaving a widow and large family of children unprovided for. His mother, a woman of great energy, independence and self-reliance of character, died in 1852.

The General, after his father's decease, continued to receive such advantages of common school education as offered in those days until he attained the age of 12 or 13 years, when he removed to Mullica Hill for the purpose of engaging as a clerk with Hon. N.T. Stratton in the mercantile business, and in whose employ he continued some four or five years, until he entered as a cadet the Military School at West Point. As a class mate during the early period of his life, I recall vividly those indelible traits of character in his youth which in later years stamped his brilliant though brief career as a Christian, Patriot and Soldier. Modest and unassuming to a fault; an innate sense of that true dignity and honor which abhors a mean or trivial action, with strong reverence for the pure and good, were traits which grew stronger and more fully developed each succeeding year of his life. At an early age he publicly connected himself with the church, designing, when circumstances should admit, to enter its ministry. As a student he joined to quick and comprehensive faculties that energy and perseverance which overcomes every obstacle in the way of acquiring information, and to which end he neglected no opportunity. The range of studies in his school days were limited, being only such as pertained to the common school system of our State at that time. His favorite study then was mathematics, in the progress of which he rapidly and far excelled all class-mates, establishing that discipline of mind which proved the foundation of his future success as a military scholar.

Shortly after his entering the employ of Mr Stratton, that gentleman was elected a representative in Congress, and near the close of his second term was called upon to recommend a suitable person from the District to fill a vacancy in the West Point Military Academy. Though pressed with numerous applications from influential constituents for the place, he wisely determined on recommending an orphan boy, if one deserving and fit could be found willing to accept the position. The appointment of young Harker suggested itself, and Mr. S. in a letter now before me thus alludes to it: "I had supposed and it was the opinion of many of his friends in the church at the time, that he would enter upon the duties of the ministry in early life, and therefore I did not expect that he would long desire to remain in the service after graduating. I went to see the late Brig. Gen. Totten, then in charge of the Topographical Bureau, and stated to him my wishes and told him frankly of my expectations of the future life and pursuits of Harker. He remarked, 'I am glad to hear you say he is a pious youth; it is the good fortune of our country to have many Christian soldiers and officers, and he will make a better soldier on that account.' He further remarked that "although the Government required the cadet on graduating to give his word that he would serve four years, yet it was not really desirable that all should remain in commission; that the object of the Government was to have diffused through the country a large number of well-educated men in military science, whom it could call to its assistance when needed." With this understanding the appointment was made and gratefully accepted.

He entered the Academy in 1854, graduating with distinction in 1858. Gen. Robert Anderson, one of the Board of Visitors appointed by the President to examine the class of that year remarked to the writer that he regarded young Harker as a model of a soldier and one who would distinguish himself should opportunity offer – a

prediction fully verified. Entering the United States Army as a brevet 2d lieutenant of the 2d Infantry July 1, 1858, he was promoted to a full second lieutenancy of the ninth Infantry on August 15, 1858. The regiment at the time was on duty at the frontier, where he at once joined it and remained until the summer of 1861, when he was detailed for special duty at a school of instruction for volunteers, in Ohio. While there, permission was obtained from the Secretary of War allowing him to accept the Colonelcy of the 65th Ohio regiment, and at the same time he was promoted to a Captaincy in the regular line. His brilliant subsequent career from that time to the day of his death is a matter of history which will be recorded and read with pride by every patriot. Joining General Buell's Army of the Ohio, he assisted in constructing the military road in Eastern Kentucky, participated in the battle of Shiloh and siege of Corinth, and commanded a brigade of the force that chased Bragg out of Kentucky. With his brigade he afterwards joined General Rosecrans' Army of the Cumberland, and so greatly distinguished himself at the battle of Stone River, that his superior in command recommended his promotion to a Brigadier Generalship, which however, was not then complied with. At the close of the campaign he obtained a leave of absence for twenty days, enabling him to make a brief visit home. It was then he expressed to me an earnest desire to be connected with the troops of his native State, speaking proudly of what she was doing for the suppression of this rebellion, and how gallantly her sons on every field had maintained her honor. With his usual modesty, however, he was averse to his friends making the effort to have him promoted and transferred. At the expiration of his only leave during the war, he rejoined his brigade, assuming command as ranking Colonel, and took part in the Tennessee campaign. Under Gen. Thomas he again shone conspicuously at Chickamauga, receiving credit for being largely instrumental with that officer in saving the army. His command stood like a rock under his inspiring presence at the critical moment, the rebel hordes surging against it like the waves on the sea-shore, only to be broken and scattered. His undaunted courage, coolness and discretion is described by a witness to the occasion as rising to sublimity, so grand did he appear when aroused to his full strength. Though two horses were shot from under him he personally escaped injury, and upon a second and stronger recommendation from his superiors, he received his commission as Brigadier to date from that battle.

At Mission Ridge, on the 7th of May, he had his horse killed and was slightly wounded. At Resaca, on the 14th May, he was again slightly wounded and had another horse killed under him. In writing to a friend, after the fight at Resaca, he dates his letter on the march, near Kingston, Ga., May 22, 1864, and says: "You are aware that the great south-western campaign under Gen. Sherman is in progress. Thus far we have had several quite severe engagements, in which we have been entirely victorious. In the battle of Resaca, on the 14th inst., I was wounded, though not dangerously. I was struck on the leg by a shell, which exploded immediately after passing me, wounding Gen. Manson, and killing my own horse and that of one of my orderlies. It was quite a narrow escape for me. My leg, though slightly cut and painfully bruised, is doing well. I did not leave the field, though unable to exercise full command for about thirty-six hours. You and my family will be glad to learn that I can walk and ride very well now. I am able to discharge all my duties, and hope to be able to conduct my brave little command which has so nobly stood by me in so many severe engagements, through the great struggle or perhaps series of struggles which will doubtless ensue before the fall of Atlanta. The result of the great battle before us cannot be doubted, though all of us cannot hope to witness the great triumph which must crown the efforts of our magnificent army."

You have already published the particulars of his death in his last noble and heroic effort, which are too fresh and ineffaceable to need recounting. In his death the nation mourns the loss of as gallant and true a hero as has fallen on any field a sacrifice to this hell-inspired rebellion. His courage was no offspring of vanity or selfishness, but of that exalted type which called forth every power to the conscientious discharge of a duty; his known military skill and ability commanding the confidence and esteem of his superiors and making him the idol of his subordinates, who were ever animated by his voice as with electric fire, to any deed of daring. "Have we taken the mountain?" were his last words of inquiry as he lay insensible to the fearful carnage and din of war around him. Death had no fears for him, but he could not bear defeat.

His remains were forwarded to the scenes of his peaceful childhood for burial, the spot of all others he would himself have chosen for their resting place; and though no gorgeous pageantry followed them to the grave, a large assemblage gathered without notice to pay the last sad tribute of respect

F.F.P.

Salem, July 15, 1864.

2264 8/25/1864 *From:* CH Howard

To: Maj. Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-2214

Louisville

Cmdg. Army & Dept
Tennessee

Source: Bowdoin

[346]

South-Western and Western Union Telegraph Companies

Louisville Aug 25 1864 7 P.M.

To Maj. Gen. Howard
Cmdg. Army & Dept Tennessee

I mail to you Gen. Halleck's reply. He directs that I communicate with Gen. Canby before giving <any> orders from you. Shall I see Gen Canby & <give> him all the papers?

C.H Howard
Lt. Col. & A.D.C.

2265 8/25/1864 *From:* CH Howard

To: Maj. Gen. Halleck

OOH-2215

Louisville

Chief of Staff

Source: Bowdoin

[347]

South-Western and Western Union Telegraph Companies.

Louisville, Aug 25 1864 7 P.M.

To Maj. Gen. [Henry] Halleck Chief of Staff

Gen. Canby is at New Orleans It will take some weeks to communicate with him. Cannot Gen. Sherman's orders already given to Gen. A. J. Smith be carried out if not yet countermanded?

C.H. Howard
Lt. Col & A.D.C.

2266 8/26/1864 *From:* H.W. Halleck

To: Lt Col C H Howard

OOH-2216

Chf Staff
Washington DC

Louisville, Ky

Source: Bowdoin

[1]

U.S. Military Telegraph
Louisville Aug 26th 1864

By Telegraph from Washington DC 11 am 186[4]
To Lt Col C H Howard
Louisville, Ky

A despatch just received from Maj Genl Canby states that Genl A J Smith's command has already been detached to Cooperate with Gen'l Sherman

H.W. Halleck
Chf Staff
(Cipher)

2267 8/26/1864 *From:* Thomas Blasland

To: Rev. J. W. Alvord

OOH-2217

Boston

Source: Bowdoin

[132]

Boston Augt 26th / 64

My dear Friend,

I want to ask a favor of you and it is this, that you will be so kind as to write to Genl Howard, you being a personal friend to get him to take Edward on his staff. If you will it will confer a great favor on me.

Respectfully yours &c
Thomas Blasland

We are all very well and send our best regars to you and family

To Rev. J. W. Alvord

2268 8/26/1864 *From:* E Waite

To: Dear Niece [Lizzie
Howard]

OOH-2218

Portland

Source: Bowdoin

[567]

Portland August 26 1864

Dear Niece,

You mention in your letter that you may have occasion to trouble me to collect your dividends & Interest on the Coupons. I want to let you know that it is no trouble at all to me, not the least, as I have plenty of time to do all such collections.

I hope the Surgeon will permit Edw'd to come home and stay with us till his wound is fully healed.

Have you any late News from your Dear Good Husband, hope is well.

Your Affectionate Uncle
E Waite

2269 8/27/1864 *From:* W. T. Sherman MG *To:* Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2219

Source: Bowdoin

Pattersons
Campbellton Road
[Georgia]

[220 or 130]

Pattersons Campbellton Road [Georgia]
Aug 27, 64 1050 am

Genl Howard,

I have your letter of this morning. The position of your troops is good. Rest them till tomorrow and then move to New Hope. Crossing the Rail road. <facing sech> troops well <march>. Stanleys Head of Column must be near Mt Gilead –his column is passing here at a strong pace. I will be here some hours. And then go to Mt Gilead. Jeff Davis may get his trains to Mt Gilead, and a part of his troops. Schofield will hardly get out till tonight and tomorrow. He has separate Roads to his position near Trumbles Mill. Thomas will be near Red Oak or I Corps tomorrow, when I want Kilpatrick to free for him. Where is Gunard. Is he at Sand Town. If so tell him to move his Comdg to <> Post Office (Kenardson) until Schofield moves out & follow his movement. I would like to see him.

W. T. Sherman MG

2270 8/28/1864

From: J.S. Fullerton
Lt. Col & Chf Staff
Headquarters 4th Army
Corps

To: Genl [OO Howard]

OOH-2220

Source: Bowdoin

[131]

Headquarters 4th Army Corps
Aug 28 6 P.M. 1864

Genl, [OO Howard?]

Genl Stanley, who has just started off to put some troops into position, requested me to write this note informing you that we do not cover any Atlanta and Campbellton road, but he thinks that Genl Schofield covers the road you refer to. It is understood that he is to move up and connect with this Corps tonight.

We followed the 14th Corps taking a road that turns off from the road on which we marched yesterday about 200 yds South of Mt Gilead Church, and which runs East about one mile and one half, and then directly south to Red Oak. The Corps is just now going into position, our right rests about 800 yds from the rail Road & are half way between Red Oak Station and Red Oak Post Office (also on the R.R.). Our line of battle will face toward Atlanta, and will extend along the road on which we marched, so that our left will rest almost on the fork of Camp Creek in lot No. 2. Where our left will rest I cannot exactly tell now. The 14th <Corps from> Atlanta, its left resting this side of the R.R. & connecting with us.

J.S. Fullerton [Joseph Scott Fullerton]
Lt. Col & Chf Staff

2271 8/29/1864

From: Frank P Blair, Jr
Maj Genl
Comg

To: Lieut Col Wm F. Clark

OOH-2221

Source: Bowdoin

Head Quarters 17 Army
Corps
Near <Sladun> Church
on the Atlantic
& West Point R.R.

A.A.G. Dept & Army of the
Tenn

[133]

Head Quarters 17 Army Corps
Near <Sladun> Church on the Atlantic
& West Point R.R. August 29th / 64

Col.

I have the honor to report that my command has thoroughly destroyed the Atlanta & West Point Rail Road from my left toward Fairburn to the point where the 16th Corps commenced operations.

This destruction has been made complete by burning the ties, twisting and <nailing the rails and filling up the deep cuts with dirt and trash.

Very Resply
Your Obt Srvt
Frank P Blair, Jr
Maj Genl
Comg

To
Lieut Col Wm F. Clark
A.A.G. Dept & Army of the Tenn

2272 8/29/1864 *From:* [RB Howard]

To: My dear Brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-2222

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

[42]

Farmington Aug. 29/64

My dear Brother

I am up early this Monday morning for me (5 o'clock) & my first thoughts as my last at night turn to you in the camp. We hear rumors of dissensions among the corps commanders that delay military operations and of the death of Gen Dodge. May God sustain & strengthen you under all these discouragements. How earnestly a minister, old Mr Hanes of Bridgton, prayed for you the other night at a little Tea party where I was! Yesterday was a beautiful & happy Sabbath to me. Rev. H. L. Butterfield here on a visit, addressed a large meeting for the Ch. Com. In the evening & preached us an excellent Sermon in the P.M. His Brother is an acquaintance of Charles in Schofields Corps. Col Hayes two brothers Rev. Stephen, & Gustavus have been to see me this week. They both hope he will be able to follow you at no distant day.

I had a note from Lizzie on Thursday. Chancy had been ailing but was better. Lizzie lent me 125\$, which I hope to pay $\frac{1}{2}$ in a month & the rest before long. I was glad you were able to do so much for the church, but some of those rich men ought to pay your subscription for you. Farwell says he told McKensie last Summer that "if he did'nt pray for the Country, if he (Farwell) were God Almighty he would destroy his church by lightning." When it was done he wrote to McK & reminded him of his irreverent remark & subscribed 800\$ toward the new one!

Del wrote Friday that father continued to fail. I was down Wednesday & he did not incline to sit up or converse at all. When I said "Father I may never see you again, shall I read & pray with you?" He replied "if you wish to". Louisa is there & feels earnestly for his Salvation, but he seems to have a settled stoicism with regard to a future state. Mr Ames is very kind, helpful & considerate, but not a christian. Aunt Fanny Bartlett is also there. Henry Wingate brought her up & took Gracie home to Augusta last week. Alice is with mother while Ella visits Bath and is of great assistance to her, as she can get no girl. Ella & I have offered mother a home with us just as soon as she may feel to need one other than that at Leeds. Father has planned a good deal of work for "knees" timber & sleepers this fall & some for wood this winter. He showed the same interest for Mother after he gave up living as he would for himself. He has given her 7000\$ in old R.R. bonds that are worth their face & bear interest, 3000\$ in other securities, & 10,000\$ of the new set of R.R. bonds whose value now is very small.

[missing close]

2273 8/29/1864 *From:* J.W. Alvord

To: Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2223

Source: Bowdoin

American Tract Society
Instituted at Boston in
1814
William A. Booth, Esq.,
of New York, President.
Rev. John W. Alvord,
Secretary
New York

[134]

American Tract Society
Instituted at Boston in 1814
William A. Booth, Esq., of New York, President.
Rev. John W. Alvord, Secretary
New York, Augt 29, 1864

To:
Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard
My Dear Sir

The enclosed I forward to you, as it is from one of my old parishioners in Boston.

If you need a young man of activity, intelligence, & courage I can recommend Edward, a lieutenant formerly & I believe at present, in the 32 Mass.

I watch your progress before Atlanta with deepest interest, & congratulate you upon your accession to the command of the Army of the Tennessee, may God shield you in the perilous hours & give you much of his grace. At West Point the other day I visited the locality of your old Sabbath School & heard the people speak of you with much affection, sending love &c.

I am still at my Army work, though more occupied here in the rear in getting published the large supplies now needed by the Christian Commission (also for the Sanitary Com), going to the front occasionally to superintend & help. Can I get to you this Autumn? It would give me great pleasure to see you, & for a few weeks do something personally for our Western Troops. If you will be so kind as to send me your pass I will come if possible.

Kindest regards to your bro. Maj Howard & all on your staff who know me. In spite of the politicians we are anticipating military success for you. God is with us in this struggle, & I am looking for a great outpouring of his Spirit upon all our Armies & ere long an honorable peace.

Truly yrs
J.W. Alvord

P.S. I send you our 1864 Rept.

2274 8/30/1864 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: Dearest [OO Howard]

OOH-2224

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[43]

Augusta Aug. 30th. 1864

Dearest,

I was very happy this morning to get a letter from you dated as late as the 21st inst. My last letter from you before this one was dated the 11th –think that there is one or more not yet received.

Grace came home very unexpectedly last Wednesday. Mr Wingate took Aunt Fanny out to Leeds and brought Grace home. She is looking very well indeed, and is ready to go back again. I have not heard from Mother's since Grace came from there –seems as if Col. Gilmore could not live many days longer. I wonder if he is a Christian. I wish he would make an open profession.

Mrs Jackson is with me and I take great comfort and pleasure in her society. Her christian character shines forth at all times, and she is much like Uncle Edward I think. I am hoping she will remain with me some time. It is so much better to have such a motherly sort of person. Edward is here (and at camp also). He had quite a serious wound. The Examining Com. is here of which Dr. Palmer is one. He came from Annapolis.

Mr McKenzie has been preaching in the Baptist church but hereafter the morning service will be held in "Meonian Hall" and evening at the chapel. I shall go in the evening for the present –half past two o'clock.

We are all very well now. Chancy is quite well again. I have just taken him from the cradle and put him into bed. He gave a slight hoarse cough which I hope wont amount to croup. Guy has commenced a letter to you. Grace and Jamie have no school to go to now, Miss Woodward is away. Jamie has been very constant up to the present time. I do not and have not missed Isabella scarcely at all. I am very well indeed now that the weather is cooler. I should like to go to Leeds if I could. I am glad Aunt Fanny is with Mother. I think of her a great deal.

How long will Charlie be away from you.

I have been thinking about moving lately and would like to find a convenient house to rent before Winter. Mr Thomas Lambert has sold his house for \$3750.00 I don't think this is any time to buy here. Sometimes I feel like breaking up house-keeping all together. I get so weary look out for so much and so many of us. Nobody will take Julia and her children as we have, and the only way is for her to get married, and I hope she will as she seems inclined to. It would be the best thing for her. The children commenced going to school again this week. Martha can read already, and Fanny can spell quite well.

I am finishing me letter in the morning now. Chancy is with me very happy. You don't know what a big boy he is. I must go down street this morning and seen about my coupons coming due soon. I have money enough. Rowland asked for one hundred and twenty five which I sent him.

Guy is going to school now and will take this to the P.O. I hope you are all quite well. I don't look for you home now.

Your own Lizzie

2275 8/30/1864 *From:* Sergt J. C. Reese *To:* General [OO] Howard
 Cop C 29th Ala Regt
OOH-2225 Camp Douglas, Illinois

Source: Bowdoin

[135]

Camp Douglas, Illinois
August 30th 1/64

General Howard

Sir as I am detained at this place as a prisoner of war contrary to my expectations I now write you this short epistle reminding you of your promise made to me on the 6th of July (the day that I was captured) at your Head Quarters That if I would go around with you and make you acquainted with certain roads that I could cross the Ohio River and take an oath not to return during the present war. Now I am willing to do so and you will please write to the commanding Officer of the Post and have me released as the law requires and you will oblige your most humble Servt very much.

Respectfully,
Sergt J. C. Reese
Cop C 29th Ala Regt

[Written on the back page]
Sergt. J C. Reese
Co. C. 29th Ala. Regt.
Camp Douglas, Ill.
Aug. 30th 1864
Answered

2276 8/31/1864 *From:* C.H. Howard

To: My dear brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-2226

Gayoso House
Memphis Tenn

Source: Bowdoin

[137]

Gayoso House
Memphis Tenn
Aug 31 1864

My dear brother

It is late, but I will write tonight in order that the letter may go by the first mail. I find that Gen. Washburn had recalled A.J. Smith's command and now intends sending Smith with one Divn as soon as transports can be obtained—he expects in two or three days. But he has sent Gen. Sherman full despatches about the matter. He says the rains made the roads so bad that he did not deem it advisable for Smith to proceed by land marches as indicated by Gen. Sherman. It need take some time by this plan & route.

Steele it seems has called on Gen. Washburn for help which the latter is disposed to grant but now he is disposed to use only Mower's Divn for such a purpose & that not unless it is really needed.

Gen. Washburn has more Generals on his hands than he knows what to do with. He don't think Veatch is first for this place. Prince is already here doing nothing—boarding at this house. Gen. Washburn is favorable to Buckland but I don't understand why the latter allowed Forrest to get in here. I cannot think the troops & pickets were disposed in a very military way. I hear that Buckland has been nominated for Congress & would like to go home. If Morgan L Smith is not needed at Vicksburg why could he not be assigned here? I find that the prospects of this have Col Corkerill (who is a personal friend of Gen. Sherman's & to whom I brought a letter of introduction from Dayton) would be glad to see Morgan L Smith in command. He did not seem very favorable to Veatch.

Gen. Washburn has nothing special to send back but preposes to send despatches by me to Gen. Canby and I will at least go as far as Vicksburg and will do what I can to get those fragmentary organizations relieved. According to Gen. Washburn's latest despatches from Canby I have little doubt that they can easily be relieved.

Gen. W. has taken no measures whatever about including Vicksburg in his command. He learned about Gen. Dana's assignment before your order. I will ascertain from Gen. Dana whether he needs Gen. Morgan L. Smith & inform you, but I have no doubt it would be better to have Smith here & trust one of the more indifferent Generals under Dana.

Gen Morgan L Smith was at Cairo when I left & will probably be here tomorrow. Gen. Veatch has not yet arrived.

The last telegram in the newspapers from Louisville said that Gen. Sherman was making a flank movement to the right with his whole Army.

Your Affectionate brother
C.H. Howard
A.D.C.

P.S.

Gen. Washburn of his own accord would not replace Buckland, but I feel sure Smith would do better.

P.S. No 2. I had a delightful trip down the river on the new steamer "Darling". Capt. Norton went via Chicago & was to meet me at Cairo but failed. It is just as well. I of course could get on just as well alone. He probably will come down next boat. C.H.H.

I reached here about 6 P.M. today.

Latest –Sept 1st Morning

The last news (dated Aug 25) from Canby to Gen Washburn was that he (Canby) was going up river to Arkansas, with a force of 15,000. He ought to be there by this time & obviate all necessity of troops going from here. But Gen. Washburn has a standing order from Canby to keep a moveable force of at least 5,000 men here at all times. C.H.H.

2277 8/31/1864

From: W.T. Sherman

To: Genl [OO Howard]

Maj Genl

OOH-2227

Head-Quarters, Military

Division of the

Source: Bowdoin

Mississippi

In the Field

[136]

Head-Quarters, Military Division of the Mississippi

In the Field,

Aug 31 10 PM 1864.

Genl,

I have your Report which is of course very satisfactory, but I am so nervously alive to the importance of the next step that the part of your Battle of today seems a year old. If Hardees command at Lewisboro and Hood remain at Atlanta with a Corps & the militia as in the present appearance of things they will try to effect a junction. I have put Thomas & Schofield on the guard, but I think you could detect the more <Ironest>, you could make your pickets develop a change and then calculate the direction.

We have gained by strategy today great advantage and I don't want to lose it. Please do all you possibly can to follow Hardee the moment he gives ground, as soon as he starts & Thomas can get Stanley & Davis on your left. I will put his Army in pursuit & keep your Right & Schofield left. But tomorrow I think Hardee will try & double on us. If he remains at Jonesboro, with the assistance of Flint River I think we may bag him, but we must be smart. Have the best staff officer you have out tonight & get him to push parties of skirmishers up at points so as to break the Enemys "Shell" Line of Rickets.

If you can only get into Jonesboro, someone then can tell the direction of the Enemy. If he remains tomorrow I am content.

Yrs.

W.T. Sherman

Maj Genl