
2325 10/1/1864

From: Oren M Whitman

To: Mrs. L.A. Howard

OOH-2273

Hortonville, Outagamie
Co. Wis.

Augusta, Me.

Source: Bowdoin

[574]

Hortonville, Oct 1st 1864.

Dear Cousin L.

Pardon the familiarity I use in thus addressing you; but I have thought much of you and learning from my friends at Auburn that you were still residing at Augusta I have resolved to address you.

More than a year has passed since I rec'd your kind letter. (A year of sad changes to me.) After reading your reply, I was intending to visit you on my way home. Suddenly I was summoned home to meet a dear friend, returning from the Army, on a sick furlough. I started at once, buoyant with the hope of so soon meeting him, of when after six years intimate acquaintance. I considered worthy of calling more than friend. But alas, I arrived just in time to receive a telegram of his relapse and expected death.

It is impossible to describe my own feelings. Even now when I recall these scenes. I can but exclaim Is it real Am I not dreaming . But it is no dream. Yet there is one thing real. A God, who doeth all things well . Thy will not mine be done. This is my support, my consolation.

His remains arrived in a few days after my return. They rest beneath the Pines, in a cemetery near our village. I have a monument which marks the sacred spot . Oh, it is a comfort, a great consolation to me, that I had the privilege of this.

Excuse this narration, but I my mind only wanders over the past. I have not been able to write only to a very few of my friends, since my return. Now I am feeling more resigned. So I have been teaching the Summer in our Grammar school and am now continuing the Fall term, numbering fifty pupils.

Mother often speaks of you, with remembrance of love. Father is Manufacturing Brick & Matches. We reside in a very pleasant so called New England village – mostly Maine people.

We are in hopes to see you and family some day. Would it be expecting too much, to ask for your pictures. Please to write the earliest opportunity and gratify us with the health of yourself and children. Especially the success of the General. Oh, may he spared to you. Again I must beg pardon for prolonging this sheet.

Hoping to hear from you speedily,
I remain Yours Affect'ly
Cousin Oren

Address: Oren M Whitman
Hortonville, Outagamie Co. Wis.

Mrs. L.A. Howard,
Augusta, Me.

2326 10/1/1864 *From:* W.T. Sherman
Maj Genl

To: Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-2274

Atlanta

Source: Bowdoin

[15]

U.S. Military Telegraph
Cipher Octo 1st 1864
By Telegraph from Atlanta
To Gen Howard and Cax

I have not yet heard from Gen Grant as to my proposed Campaign but it is well for you to have in mind that if Hood swings over to the Alabama Road and then tries to get into Tennessee I may throw back to Chattanooga all of Thomas men as far down as Kingston and draw forward all else, Send back all Cavalry & Locamotives destroy Atlanta & make for Savannah or Charleston via Milledgeville ard. If Hood aims at our Roads this side of Kingston and in no manner threatens Tennessee I will have to turn on him. Keep these things to yourself. The movement I propose is less by 200 miles than I made last fall and less than I accomplished in February and we could make Georgia a break in the Confederacy by ruining both East & West Roads and not running against a single Fort till we got to the Seashore and in Communication with our ships.

W.T. Sherman
Maj Genl

[Written on the last page]

Telegram
(Private)
Oct 1st 1864
Sherman, W.T.
Maj Genl

Has not heard from Genl. Grant in relation to his campaign.

2327 10/2/1864 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: Dearest [OO Howard]

OOH-2275

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[51]

Augusta, Oct 2d 1864
Sunday Evening

Dearest

I must wait till Julia comes home before I retire and I will employ myself in writing to you. I would like to talk to you to-night a long time and about a great many things. I think I shall ride out to Leeds next week if I possibly can get away. I think that Grace must be contented and happy judging from her letter. Mother wrote a few lines asking or rather hoping I could go to Leeds for a visit before cold weather. I told Gracie I thought I should go when she went away. I hardly hope to see you before the next campaign. I could not as I am now situated go to meet you far from home this Fall.

Sarah Sargent was thinking of visiting Richmond, Ind. I learn when at Leeds. Would take Otis with her, and wanted Ella to take Frank but she could'nt. Julia has told me rather confidentially that she has given herself away, but she is in no haste to leave, and no time set to be married, but I hope I shall not have to keep them all Winter. It is a common thing to go into the kitchen and find as many as three darkie visitors morning, noon or night, and late visiting in the evening. I cannot stand it anyway.

I have had no time, Dearest, to finish my letter till now – Tuesday evening. I have just received a letter from Grace – to “Guy and Mamma.” She writes that she will be home between now and Nov.

I take pleasure in informing you that Julia will be married D.V. some time this Fall. What a weight will be off my hands.

Otis how would it do for us to go out to Leeds and spend the winter? Would Mother desire it? Guy's school closes in three weeks, and then the vacation comes. Jamie and I went over to meet Guy to-day and Miss Fuller spoke very well of Guy as we walked some together. “is Latin and arithmetic, he does particularly well in.” I have no fear but that I can get someone to do the work in Julia's place. I fear Mother is still alone, I believe I should love to shut up the house just as it is till spring. I hardly feel like doing so much work this Fall, fitting up the house, entertaining this winter. It would save me a heap of trouble and care to say nothing of the expense. Five hundred dollars I think the smallest sum I can name to make ourselves comfortable for the Winter here. Everything may look better in the Spring. I could go to Leeds with or without a girl as Mother thought best. I wonder if you will think this a wild idea.

Dellie said he was going to the Law School in Nov. I suppose you know where. Mary Frances was with Mother when Grace wrote before her next to the last letter. Will Charlie come home. I have been thinking that he will.

Love to
you from your own
Lizzie

2328 10/2/1864

From: W.T. Sherman
Maj Gen
Comd
Head-Qrs Military
Division of the
Mississippi,
Atlanta

To: Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2277

Source: Bowdoin

[163]

Head-Qrs Military Division of the Mississippi,
Atlanta Oct 2, 1864

Gen Howard,
Private.

Let Ransom come in slowly and if the enemy approach sully and attack him firmly. Davis will be in close support. I will throw standby across the Chattahoochie and be prepared to put our whole force in motion to interpose between Hood who may attempt to march on Road about Mantilla & his Bridges at Campbelton. Be prepared to send in all yr troops to Atlanta and to follow Stanley.

I would attack the Corps in position but presume it is strongly entrenched.

I am &c
W.T. Sherman
Maj Gen
Comd

2329 10/2/1864 *From:* W.T. Sherman
M.G.

To: Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-2278

Atlanta

Source: Bowdoin

[13]

U.S.Military Telegraph
Oct 2d
By Telegraph from Atlanta 2
To Gen Howard

There is a flood in the Chattahoochee which has damaged our Railroad bridge & will of course carry away any of Hoods bridges. I want that reconaissance pushed out boldly as soon as it reaches Fairburn. Let me now as I may push it on to the rear of their bridge. All the valuable part of Enemys Corps is over beyond Sweetwater & we can do them damage on this side now. The same cause which produced the rise in the Chattahoochee will affect the Tenn & Forrest will be in danger with a swollen river to his rear.

W.T. Sherman
M.G.

[Written on the reverse of the telegraph]
Telegram
Genl. Sherman
Oct. 2, 1864
There is a freshet in the Chattahoochie river.

2330 10/2/1864 *From:* W. T. Sherman
Maj. Genl.

To: Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-2279

Atlanta

Source: Bowdoin

[20]

U.S. Military Telegraph
Oct 2d 1864
By Telegraph from Atlanta 2d 1864
To Gen Howard

All our Cavalry is across the Chattahoochee. Hood may attempt to swing in between Marietta & Alatoona with 2 Corps leaving Lee to cover his bridge. If so I may turn on Lee and then on the other force. Keep your Command ready. I await the arrival of the Courier.

W. T. Sherman
Maj. Genl.

[Written on the reverse side.]
Telegram
Genl. Sherman
Oct. 2nd 1864
In relation to Hood's movements.

2332 10/2/1864

From: W.T. Sherman,
Maj. Genl.
Comdg

To: Genl. [Jefferson
Columbus] Davis

OOH-2281

Source: Bowdoin

Head Quarters Mil. Div.
of the Miss.
Atlanta, Ga.

[157]

(Copy)

Head Quarters Mil. Div. of the Miss.
Atlanta, Ga., Oct 2nd, 1864

Genl. [Jefferson Columbus] Davis -

Communicate with Genl Howard, and be prepared to send into Atlanta all your traps, and to move with ten days rations toward Marietta or to Fairburn, as the case may call for. I think Hood has crossed the Chattahoochee with two Corps to attack our road, and has left one Corps on this side near Campbelton. We should interpose.

(signed) W.T. Sherman,
Maj. Genl.
Comdg

Official
A.C. McClurg
A.D.C. &c

2333 10/4/1864

From: J.D. Cox [Jacob
Dolson Cox]
Brig Gen.
Army 23 AC
Chatt'a Bridge

To: Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2282

Source: Bowdoin

[21]

U.S. Military Telegraph
Oct 4th 1864
By Telegraph from Chatt'a Bridge 1864
To Genl Howard

The head of my column is just coming in from Decatur. Will you please inform me whether your army has all crossed so that I may determine whether the road will be clear for me. Part of the 17 AC is crossing but I cannot learn what position it has in the column.

J.D. Cox [Jacob Dolson Cox]
Brig Gen.
Army 23 AC

[Written on the back side.]
Brig. Gen. Cox
Comg 23 A.C.
Oct. 4th
Has Genl. Howard's army all crossed &c.

2334 10/5/1864 *From:* W.T. Sherman Maj Gen. *To:* Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-2284 Headquarters, Military
Source: Bowdoin Division of the
 Mississippi
 In the field, Near
 Marietta

[154]

Headquarters, Military Division of the Mississippi
In the field, Near Marietta, Oct 5 1864

Genl Howard

I want you to select a line to connect on your Right with Stanley and the Left to cover the Powder Spring Road. I don't care about your being out as far as Culps. It may be the old Rebel Line this side is equally good, but you can select. I want to advance the Right of our General Line. Cox to the Lewis town road, and will put his left at Stanley's Right (<River top Marten>) and his right forward as far as possible.

Yrs
W.T. Sherman Maj Gen.

2336 10/7/1864 *From:* J Kilpatrick Brig Genl *To:* Col [William] Clark
AAG
Army of Tenn

OOH-2285 Hd Qrs Cav

Source: Bowdoin

[160]

Hd Qrs Cav
Oct 7th 1864
11 am

Col [William Thomas] Clark
AAG
Army of Tenn

Col

I am at Power Springs. Enemy left last evening in Direction of Dallas. I am marching now for Pumpkin View & roads south of Dallas. I would respectfully suggest that the Infantry be pushed in direction of Dallas, to protect my right. Hoods Infantry I learn is <moment> to the right of Dallas. Forage in abundance on this side Noses Creek.

Very Respectfully
J Kilpatrick Brig Genl [Hugh Judson]

[Written on the back side.]

Hd. Qrs. Cavalry
Oct. 7th 1864
Kilpatrick, J.
Brig. Genl. Comg.

States that he is at Powder Springs. Enemy left last evening in direction of Dallas. Suggests that Infantry be pushed out towards Dallas to protect his right flank.

2337 10/8/1864 *From:* H.M. Stinson

To: Dear General, [OO
Howard]

OOH-2286

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[156]

Augusta
Oct 8d 1864

Dear General, [OO Howard]

I should have written to you before but I wished to be able to tell you the real state of my health and the probabilities as to my returning; this I have only known since Wednesday when I was thoroughly examined by Dr. Hill who is considered very skillful in such cases.

He told me that the attack of bleeding I had while in camp had caused inflammation in a portion of the left lung; that I might recover or it might prove fatal; that under the most favorable circumstances I ought not to think of returning in less than six months. There is a sort of unnatural heating to the heart which throws the blood into the lung with great force. This of course was very bad but lately my pulse does not seem so rapid.

The Dr. has placed me on a low diet and allows me to make no exertion that will put me out of breath; says I can go out during the pleasant part of the day. He says the Western climate would be no better than that of Maine and that I had best remain here.

Perhaps I have written too much about myself but I thought you might like to know just how I was. If I could only be back once more in the army with strength and health I think I would be very happy. My return seems very doubtful and I thought I would ask your opinion as to whether I had better resign at once or hold on for awhile. I intend to wait until I hear from you before taking any action in the matter.

Since I have been at home the time has passed very pleasantly indeed and now I am feeling first rate and can hardly realize that I am unwell. The mail is just about to close and I must close though there is much I would like to add. Will write again soon.

Much love to all the old staff. Will send letter to the Major by next mail.

I am General
Very Truly Yours
H.M. Stinson

[Written on the back page.]
Stinson, Capt
Augusta Oct 8 /64

2338 10/9/1864 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: Dearest[OO Howard]

OOH-2287

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[52]

Augusta, Oct. 9th 1864
Sunday evening

Dearest

I received a good long letter from you this morning dated Sept 22d. I sent Guy to the Office for I felt that I must have had a letter come in the late train Saturday night. I am glad for you that your reports are made out.

I want to know what you mean by Mother's "living with Rowland" As I have not seen any of the family, excepting at the funeral, I have learned nothing of their plans, or wishes expressed or unexpressed, and I do not understand it. I heard a little about business, getting out timber, which no one seems to approve, but poor Dell who seems to think he can carry on the business as well as his father with his experience of many years. Dell don't realize yet his great loss. Why is Mother going to Rowland? I don't understand it. William Merrick made somewhat the same remark, but I was so astonished I could make no answer, or inquire into it.

My last letter mentioned about going to Leeds, so you see I am ignorant of all plans. I feel badly enough I assure you all alone, with the care of four little children, no father's house, no brother, no sister, no anything but a precious husband far away at the Wars. I hardly dare to go to Leeds now for fear I might say how happy I should be to have Mother with us. There are many reasons why I should'nt speak. Mother write in Grace's letter that she found in talking with Dellie, he had said nothing to me about "my part." I have'nt the slightest idea what sort of a part is mine, or what she could mean –hoped I could go out and stay a few days.

I will get cousin Edward to drive out with me, if he is able to come to Augusta. He is home now, "been very sick, hope he is now improving." I do want Mother to have no more care, and live in whatever way will bring her the greatest amount of happiness.

Mrs Stinson was in to see me last evening. Herbert is established at Newport, for the Navy. The Capt. Is not as well as when he reached home. I fear he has acted too much like a well man. Mr B. is glad he has written asking your advice, knows you will not let him resign &c. There is every reason why he should not.

I thought I would write till Chancy waked, he is still asleep. He is getting to be quite a talker, talks a great deal to "Ju-bee". I hope you will get this letter with the one I wrote a few days ago for it seems to be a part of it. I did get the money from Chatt'a, sorry I neglected to mention it. I shall think no more of coming West. I could not take the small children or leave them with Mrs Jackson. We are all prepared for cold weather and it is not possible to do any thing until the Fall goods are purchased by the merchants and they are going to put off making their purchases for the present –the prices are high and the market uncertain.

I am glad you spoke as you did about a Brigadiership. I hope it will be offered you. Others have spoken about it to me, thought you deserve it, and your humble servant thinks so.

I want to see Grace very much, but I think she better stay with her Grand-mother, if it is convenient, till after Julia is married. She is to marry a man who came here with an Officer, from the south, and I hope will be married by the first of Dec. But Mrs Jackson says many a slip between the cup and lip. I am going to run away from everything burdensome this afternoon and go over to see Mrs Gilbreth. I think Mrs Farwell must be there also. A report came the other day that Lieut. Murphy was killed. I have not heard if it is really so.

I am finishing my letter Monday afternoon just after dinner. Guy is learning his lessons –Chancy amusing himself –Mrs Jackson knitting. Jamie is coming in now. Martha and Fanny are starting for school. It is quite a cold Fall day –the sun not shining and altogether quite a cheerless day. Now I will close my letter and Jamie is waiting to come to the desk to paint "Guy said Ja might have Guy's paints." He has been making Chancy a kite (a piece of paper with a thread tied to it) he is now flying it. Jamie "Sends papa a kiss and Jamie's letter". Guy thinks he ought to write to pa-pa.

Your own loving
Lizzie

2339 10/10/1864 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2288

Source: Bowdoin

Head-Quarters
Department and Army
of the Tennessee,
Near Marietta

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,
October 10th 1864
Near Marietta

Dearest,

Charles is just starting for Alatoona and will take a line for you. For a week we have had our communications cut and probably you have got rumors that may have occasioned you much anxiety. Hood crossed the Chattahoochee below Campelltown and moved up in force between Marietta & Alatoona, breaking the R.R. & attacking Alatoona. He failed to carry Alatoona and we were soon upon his heels. He has drawn off towards the West, and we are fast repairing damages. Slocum was left at Atlanta, which is all right. We don't know what Grant has been doing though we get rumors of good news.

Give much love to the children from Papa & Uncle Charles. Capt. Gilbreth is well. Please write me about the checks you have received. Much love & many kisses and God bless & keep you.

Lovingly
Otis

2340 10/11/1864 *From:* E. Waite

To: Mrs Elizabeth Howard

OOH-2289

Portland

Source: Bowdoin

[576]

Portland Octr 11 1864

Mrs Elizabeth Howard
Dear Niece

I enclose the Certificate of the 6 Shares of Stock in National Bank.

As you did not say whether you wished me to Remit your dividends of Bank Stocks, I await your orders. The whole amount will be \$167.50 I did not know but you intended to make some further investment. If you wish me to collect and remit the money I will do so as soon as I receive your answer.

Edward Francis is still very sick and weak has not been able to leave his Room for 3 or 4 weeks. Some days not able to leave his bed.

In haste, Your Affectionate Uncle
E. Waite

2341 10/14/1864 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: Dearest [OO Howard]

OOH-2290

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[53]

Augusta Oct 14th 1864

Dearest

I have just received your letter of the 29th, but I have received your telegram since. I am very glad to learn that Charlie has at last reached you in safety. I had some fears that the enemy might take him off. I hope you can indeed come home some time this Winter. I shall not think of going anywhere for I am not situated so I can leave, and shall not be. I have a strong desire to go to Leeds, and mean to go with Guy, as soon as his school is finished. I hope Mother is getting rested and looks better than when I saw her. Dellie was going to "Law School" in Nov. I presume he is still intending to go. So you are going to have the opportunity of voting for the re-election of Pres. Lincoln. Will it not be your first vote?

The draft for \$200. came in the last letter. How happened it to be payable to the order of E.A. I will address you as I once did, when you said "please not" if it comes again without sufficient excuse.

Julia's marriage does not seem to be a settled thing yet, but I have decided not to keep her all Winter any way. I feel that I have done enough for them. She could get a rent take in work and support herself. I should feel confined at home just so long as I should have her with me.

I saw Harry day before yesterday. I was at the house. He seems about the same. We have had a great deal of damp, rainy weather which keeps him confined to the house.

Mr Blaine is at home, kept Guy till 7 ½ in the evening yesterday, and then came home with him, so I would'nt blame Guy for staying to tea without permission. Mr Nason sent me a disk of delicious grapes this evening. How I wish you could enjoy them with us. If I could'nt look forward with bright hopes for the future. I don't know what I should do with myself. I try, but I fear I do not try hard enough to perform my daily duties. Oh! I do not do any one thing as I ought. I want your help sympathy encouragement. I am thankful I can at least hope I may have all these some, not very far removed, future day.

I like Mrs Jackson's company and assistance. Edward is still confined to his room at home. I received my dividends from Uncle a few days since.

I left my writing last evening when Chancy waked, and now I will add a few words before Guy goes to school. Rowland was in Boston when I last heard of him, Ella remained in Portland with Lizzie. Guy sends "kisses and love to Papa and Uncle Charlie, hopes he (the latter) can come home." I suppose from what has been said, he thinks there is more prospect of Uncle Charlie's coming home first.

Much love to you both.
From your Lizzie

2342 10/18/1864 *From:* Jeanie H. Grey

To: Dear General [OO]
Howard

OOH-2291

Hudson Ohio

Source: Bowdoin

[54]

Hudson Ohio 18 Oct '64

Dear General Howard:

Mama wrote you the first week in August on the receipt of Willis's Letter telling us you had so kindly infolded him in your "family military." What a response to our anxious fears for the darling fellow! How just lovely of you to take him under your wing in that horrid place! & then send him to bless his dear mother's longing eyes! God bless you & your generous brother, of whom Willis speaks so highly for your great kindness to him & to us!

I wrote to you shortly after my mother wrote, that I was about send those books to yr brother in Maine. (I sent them by Express –the 17th of August) but I suppose your hearts & hands are full –indeed I never expected you to answer all my letters –only I feared you had not received them, as my cousin Willis does not speak of getting my letters to him in his home letters. I have not heard whether your brother has received the books. I directed the boxes to "Rev Roland Howard Farmington, Maine." Was that right?

Excuse me for sending a hastily <generated> list. I took for fear they should be lost, & I thought you might recover them or at least the Express charges, which I fear the books wont be worth to you! If you had this list.

Oh! How we have rejoiced & praised the "Lord of Hosts," for your triumphal march through the "Dead Man's Lane!" & your (plural) safety through such scenes of horror!

We say with Cowper-

"Let laurels drenched in pure Parnassian dews
Reward his memory, dear to every muse,
Who, with a courage of unshaken root,
In honor' field advancing his firm foot,
Plants it upon the line that Justice draws,
And will prevail or perish in her cause.
'Tis to the virtues of such men, man owes
His portion in the good that Heaven bestows."

Mrs Col. Taylor of Washington & her daughter Mrs Col. Kingsbury have our cottage till the 22nd of November, when we expect to "ail" from Greystone. We expect to go east as soon as mama is able & while the pleasant fall weather lasts, and oh, how happy I should be to receive our good friends there, Gen Howard and family & Colonel Howard. We heard the other day through Willis's letter to his father that Col. Howard goes home on a leave & mama & I would be very happy to see him if possible at any place we may be. Our movements are so uncertain, that we cannot tell where we shall be, but if mama is well we expect to go to Poughkeepsie till we can get into our house –from here, in about two weeks to Syracuse then to Po'keepsie, then home.

What a tedious letter!"say you! But I could write on forever to him, who I think feels an interest in the widow & orphan he has done so much to comfort. God bless him!

What a badly written letter too? Pray pardon it. Our warmest love to our Willis & our dear friends! My mother's & that of

Very sincerely your grateful and affectionate friend
Jeanie H. Grey

2343 10/20/1864 *From:* S. D. Niles [Samuel Dexter] *To:* Gen. O.O. Howard
OOH-2292 Lisbon, N.H. Army of Tennessee
Source: Bowdoin

[158]

Lisbon, N.H. Oct. 20 1864

Gen. O.O. Howard
Army of Tennessee
Dear Sir

After a journey of four weeks we have arrived at my place of destination. I have thought much of your kindness to us during our stay near your Hd. Quarters. We suffered much on our way here. We were ten days in the box car we started in from Atlanta. When we got to Nashville they sent us down to Johnsonville and from there to Louisville by boat several hundred miles out of our way as you will see. The boat was fired into by a hundred Bushwhackers. We all lay down in the boat. One was wounded. Several shots passed through the boat.

I hope you are well. I would write you about that girl at Mr Silveys but I presume she has gone long ago. I bought an Album for Photographs and also your photograph to put in it. It was a perfect likeness of you.

If possible, I would like to have the soldiers who are guarding the rail road near my plantation see to our house and out buildings that they may not be destroyed. Any thing you may be able to do for me in way of saving my property will be remembered with gratitude.

If that girl has not gone I will find a place for her if you will write me at Reading Mass care of William Carter. My wife and Miss Stevens send their kindest regards to you. Flora sends a kiss. I would like to hear from you but do not suppose you can get the time to write. I shall go to Mass. In a few days.

Very respectfully yours
S. D. Niles [Samuel Dexter]

P.S. Please hand the within to Mr. Silvey as I do not know as a letter would go through to him. N.

2344 10/21/1864 *From:* Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: Dear Brother Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-2293

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[165]

Augusta Oct. 21, 1864

Dear Brother Otis

Frank Gilman has made me a weeks visit at Far. And I bro't him down here yesterday to see Lizzie & Capt Stinson. He is not up this morn. But has almost recovered from his severe illness. Stinson is a good deal better but his voice is quite hoarse, his breath short and he is thin of flesh. He took Dinner with us here & we took Tea with his Mother last evening. I go home today.

I left my little family quite well –was at Leeds a week ago. Mother seemed well & Dellie was prospering in his lumbering operations. They had sold the sheep & prepare to sell much more, if not all the things & perhaps the farm. Mother feels that she wants a home somewhere where she can receive & entertain her friends, and feels undecided as yet whether to keep the old place and live there along with hired persons or what to do. I think she does not want to be a guest or even at home with her children yet permanently. If I could rent her a small house in Farmington, I would like to have her there.

I hope Charles will be able to come home, bring your own views about these things with his own. The “golden mean” is as usual hard to reach. I don't want Mother to feel any longer that she must work like a Day laborer. Nor do I wish to condemn her to what would be harder for her, a life with any care or usefulness.

The last news from you was the telegram of the 10th inst. After Altoona. One great reason that induced me to come to Augusta was the uncertainty that we have so long felt about your & Charles location. I have just learned for the first time that he got thro. From Louisville in spite of R.R. accidents & Rebel raids. God be thanked for his deliverances & that you are again together. Our reports of the movements of Hoods & Shermans Armies are very conflicting. How the former go up so far with so large a force is a mystery & I fear communication will be for some time uncertain. I wrote to Charles at Memphis to Washburns care & to you all the particulars about fathers sickness, death & funeral. I hope the letters did not miscarry as they will all be necessary to complete the history of events & satisfy your minds.

I am writing in the “Study”. Guy is looking at a picture book in the lounge & sends some kisses. Jamie has just been in in his night dress to get a strap to fasten Chancey in his chair. Lizzie has appeared once at the door – solicitous about my writing materials. Mrs Jackson a quiet, modest, efficient woman, kind & attentive & christian has just said “Good Morning”. Frank is just out of bed & I hear him dressing. Julia & the children are well. Chancey looks more & more like a D.D. fat, sleek, sober & short, but still rather long for his cradle his mother says. He doesn't talk much but shows his fathers will occasionally. Guys School closes today & he hopes to go out to Leeds with his Mother for Grace next week. The latter is a great comfort to her Grandma. Tell Charles Ellas sister Lizzie has a little daughter born last Sab. P.M. Both doing well.

We hope that when Maj. Whittlesey arrives & the Rebels leave, Charles may get away, and we will all expect to see you this winter & no doubt we shall. “Let patience have her perfect work” is a good text for you & us. I have gathered from Frank & Stinson many things about the Campaign of which I was before ignorant. I saw Mr Blaine yesterday but Farwell was away.

With much love from all

Your loving Brother
Rowland

Lizzie is looking unusually well & Frank thinks she has changed very little for years.

2345 10/22/1864 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2294

Source: Bowdoin

Hd. Qrs. Army of Tenn.
Near Gaylesville
Alabama

[577]

Hd. Qrs. Army of Tenn.
Near Gaylesville
Alabama Oct 22nd 1864

Dearest

I received a letter from you dated as late at October 11th 1864 and another of the 5th. Our communications having been cut & the entire rebel Army interposed between us and Chat'a & home, I have deferred writing. Now the wires are all right and I understand the R.R. has been repaired. The last break between Dalton and Resacca was some 18 miles, but it has been repaired in very quick time, & the result is that we can hear from home again. In a few days I expect we shall go on an Expedition which will again cut us off awhile from home communication.

I am glad about Julia. I ought to have told you how to do with her –viz. rent a small house and let her & her children live there, and give them the washing and some sewing &c to encourage others to do so, and Julia who is smart would soon learn to make a living. I am exceedingly sorry you have had so much trouble on their account and shall rejoice if Julia gets a good help-mate.

I would be pleased to have you & the children go and stay with Grandmother this winter. I have heard of no plans whatever excepting that while mother was so lonely Rowland invited her to go up & live with him. No property considerations must ever trouble us.

It is well for Dellie to carry on any business, it does not matter what. The rough edge will all be knocked off in time. Dellie is cut out for a man & not a boy. He never was a boy even in looks. I am glad Gracie writes to Mamma & Guy, but am a little jealous on my own account. I am very happy to hear such good account of Guy from his school. What he does, be it ever so little, papa wants it well done.

It is pretty hard not be able to see you or the children this winter and I feel it, but since Gen Sherman refused to let me go, Hood has moved and we have marched 183 miles and are now away over here in Alabama. The General was right. Now he will not consent to my going even to Chat'a or Nashville. These are really marks of confidence, but those that keep me pretty well confined. Gen Schofield went to Louisville and was cut off. He has arrived today. Gen. Thomas also was caught north of Chattanooga, but fortunately he was needed there.

Maj Whittlesey came through to meet me at Kingston on the only train that succeeded in getting through before the second break in the R.R. He is here and well. Charles is well. I cannot let him go home for fear he could not get back to me before our grand move. I am very anxious for him to go home to help adjust matters, but I feel that he is more needed here. I don't want Capt. Stinson to give himself any uneasiness whatever about the service. I love him too well and regard the service he has done and the sacrifice he has made too much to have him leave on any account. I have not received a letter from Mr Blaine but have had one from Stanton himself. I hope <homes> quiet & comfort will restore him in a short time. If not he knows where to look for strength. He may stay as long as he chooses & God bless him.

Give much love to all the little ones & kisses from papa. I shall have to be introduced to Chancy if not to Jamie if I do not get home this winter. Guy will have to bring in a good deal of wood to keep you all warm at Leeds this winter. God bless you all

Lovingly
Otis

2346 10/22/1864 *From:* F.T Sherman
Col 88th Ill Infy

To: Maj Genl O.O. Howard

OOH-2295

Chicago

Comdg Dept of Tenn

Source: Bowdoin

[162]

Chicago Oct 22d 1864

Maj Genl O.O. Howard
Comdg Dept of Tenn
Dear Sir

It gives me great pleasure to inform you of my return home and release from rebel prisons. I am in the position of a paroled prisoner and am ordered to report to Camp Chase Ohio after my short leave expires. My health has been very poor since my return and am at present confined to the house and under the Doctors charge, having been seriously threatened with typhoid fever. All of which I hope has passed away.

I trust ere long to be able in person to thank you for the interest you took in my case, and the kindness shown Mrs Sherman in her lonely position. I can only say General my heart feels more, your kindness and consideration, than I can find language to express. I trust that my Capture (unfortunate for me) will not prejudice me in your good opinion for I have learned by experience that prisoners are not regarded as being worthy of the Confidence of the Government and in many cases of their immediate Commanders. Mrs Sherman joins me in sending our regards to your Brother and other numbers of your Staff with whom we may be acquainted. Permit us to offer our best wishes for your health and continued success. And believe me

I am General
Truly and Sincerely
Your Obt Servt
F.T Sherman [Francis Trowbridge]
Col 88th Ill Infy

2348 10/25/1864 *From:* Abby Munson

To: Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-2296

Farmington, Me

Source: Bowdoin

[42]

Farmington, Me, Oct [25, 1864?]

Gen Howard

Dear Sir

A line from my Son, now on the Pacific Coast, just received, desired one of your men in the State to see and present a request. That you give him some place on your Staff. Says 'tis not rank or pay, but he wished to see the fight.

He was in our first conflict Bull Run –2d Lt. Vol. Then promoted to the Regular Service. Some time at Fort Columbus, New York harbor. Five years next Dec. He was ordered to his regiment on the Pacific. He has advanced to 1st Lieutenancy.

Present address

Lieut Samuel Munson

9th Infantry U.S.A.

San Francisco, California

He has the best of reputations –a good christian officer.

Dear Sir, you will excuse this intrusion, if it is one. I wish briefly to state the above desire to come East.

The Lord bless all your ways, being ever a present comforter.

Much love and respect

Yours,

Abby Munson

2349 10/27/1864 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2298

Source: Bowdoin

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

[578]

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,
Near Gaylesville Ga 1864 27th Oct

Dearest,

I will write you a few lines this morning. We are all well. Capt Gilbreth has a slight cold however, but it will soon be over. Charles has given up going to Leeds till the close of the coming campaign. We will soon be cut off from home communication except perhaps by an occasional glimmer, through some orderly or scout. I hope you will go to Leeds where you will feel far from care and make yourself & Mother as happy as possible. I will see the paymasters at Rome or at Atlanta forward to you my last two months pay.

I am glad Guy is doing so well in his studies. I hope he will take great pains to spell correctly. Gracie must love Grandma very much. I expect she will know a great deal more about her father than Guy, for Grandma has had so many opportunities to tell her. Jamie will have a nice time at Leeds with all the chickens and cattle, and perhaps Chancy will enjoy keeping him company. From all accounts Chancy is a very happy boy with a very good heart, beats his father & mother in good nature. Do you suppose he will know his father if he stays away much longer.

Hood has gone off somewhere & it is difficult to find out where. Everybody says he is aiming for Tennessee but he has not yet appeared across the river.

I am almost sorry to have the children growing older as I want to see them as I left them. I don't know how it is with you, darling, but I like them little. I said that once to be a friend & he replied, "plenty of opportunity for more". But more is'nt those.

I will write to Harry Stinson today, but if my letter should not reach him, please tell him, that he can stay at home till he is well and I hope he may be well. Dr Hill does not speak very encouragingly about him.

I hope Delly will do well, and I do not doubt it in the least. He must be encouraged to try. Let a young man undertake anything. Guy must never say I cant. I don't think Jamie will ever say I cant for he has a very strong will, but I am a little afraid Guy may get disheartened sometimes. But I pray daily for you all, for strength from on high. Pray for me all my little family for I need strength & wisdom. God bless & keep you all.

Capt Beebe is still with us, a noble young man. Capt Gilbreth has just made me a present of an elegant belt.

Lovingly
Otis

2350 10/28/1864 *From:* Lizzie [Howard]

To: Dearest [OO Howard]

OOH-2299

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[55]

Augusta Oct. 28th 64

Dearest,

I returned from Leeds yesterday with Grace and Jamie. I had a delightful stay with Mrs. Whittlesey, both going and returning. Was very sorry to learn that Maj Whittlesey was cut off at L. from reaching you earlier.

Mrs Wing has a little daughter two weeks old. I called there a few minutes on my way to the cars.

Mrs W. had not heard from her husband since the 9th of Oct. By letter from Chatt'a.

I received your letter from "near Marietta" the 10th and the Dispatch from Gaylesville the 23d inst. Will remain both to Mother this morning. It seems Mother and Father had spoken about my going to Leeds this winter, and Mother spoke of our doing so when I first got to Leeds this time. She will consider what will be for her best comfort. Mother should be thought of first.

Great haste best love to both
Lizzie

Checks received
one from Chatta
one from you
one \$200.

2351 10/28/1864 *From:* Jn M Corse

To: Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2300

Head Qrts 4 Div 15 A.C.
Rome Ga.

Comd A&D of Tenn.

Source: Bowdoin

[161]

(Personal)

Head Qrts 4 Div 15 A.C.
Rome Ga. Oct 28 1864

Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard
Comd A&D of Tenn.

I rec'd your kind personal note yesterday and regret I had not my report ready. I have been so busy that time and space seem to have been annihilated. I assure you "Our Army" has been watched with a zealous interest & have not failed to do whenever & whatever I could for it efficiency & comfort. The report I hope to have ready by tonight or tomorrow when I will send it to you at once.

I sent an officer immediately to Chattanooga to bring up all men & officers fit for duty.

I find it difficult to procure equipments for the convalescents. Guns I have in abundance as I brought up about 800 stand I had picked up on the field at Allatoona. I'll do my best to procure & supply the men as they are ready to go to the front.

In the meantime accept my grateful thanks for your kindness & favor & believe me

Devotedly Yours
Jn M Corse