Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,

Corinth Miss. Nov 1 1862,

Dearest.

I have just received your of the 18th ult. that all can write - I have kept Charles from going. I have just time to say we are all well - and on the march - have much hope to call the children & many kisses. I feel for Mrs L. A. Grant and thinking in case of capture - a last likelihood of ~~capture~~ comfort. Poor Gen. Ransom, whom to know was to love died of dysentery. The army is healthy - God bless you all, lovingly

Oby.

562

Hartford, Conn.
Nov. 3d 1864.

Maj. Genl O. O. Howard,
Dear Sir,

My son, Capt Fred. W. Stowe, A.A.G. on Genl Steinwehr's staff, who was severely wounded in the head, while in the cemetery with you at the great battle of Gettysburg, got his discharge from the army on the 1st of August last, and applied for a pension. We have just been informed by Mr Barrett, Commissioner of Pensions, that there must be a statement of some inferior officer sent to the Pension Bureau relating the time & circumstances of receiving the wound before a pension can be granted. Your very kind letter to Fred, when he was obliged to leave the army in Tennessee, emboldens me to ask whether you will not kindly send such a statement to the Department as is required.

Hartford Conn
Nov. 3. 1864.

N.B. By a paper received from the Pension Office in Washington I find that my son's application is numbered:
49,838.

The poor boy suffers intensely from the exfoliation of bone from the wound & has lost entirely the hearing of the right ear. The surgeons say the operation of trepanning cannot be performed so near the great arteries, that it will take two years at least for the bones to work out, & the hearing is permanently gone. He is nervous, sleepless, & restless; & generally has a very hard time of it.

He became so exceedingly wearied & annoyed with doing nothing, that three weeks ago, unknown to us, he enlisted as a private in the first battery horse. Light artillery, & has gone to the front at Petersburg, Va. He writes us that he did not feel competent to do duty as an officer, but he knew he could handle guns, having been a year first lieut. of artillery in the Mass. 19th; that as he was at the first battle of Ball Run, & participated in the repulse at Chancellorville, he means to make up for it by helping to retrieve Richmond; & urges us not to feel anxious for his safety, since we must remember that cracked pitchers seldom break.

But we do feel anxious, & so do the examining surgeons, lest the excitement & consumption of battle should bring on derangement of the brain, & perhaps brain fever, even if he should escape shot & shell.

I wrote to Mr Barrett about his enlisting a second time as private; & tho I thought that such an exhibition of pluck & patriotism, so far from defaming him of his first position, should rather entitle him to double allowance.

We have written to Gail Hamilton, but rather at random as we cannot ascertain where he is to be found.

If you can do anything for the poor wounded, suffering, but yet plucky fellow, it will be very gratefully received by yours most respectfully

C. E. Stowe.

New York, Nov. 3. 1864.

My dear General:

I do not know who is now with you, as Chief Q.M. Col. Garber was appointed to relieve me, but I understand he prefers a station elsewhere. If you desire to have a good Chief Q.M. with you in the field, you will undoubtedly find one in Capt. J. J. Crilly, A.Q.M. who left here yesterday to report to Gen. Easton. He is a regular officer, of several years experience, both in the field and Depot, he has been Gen. Van Vliet's principal Assistant here for a year and a half, and all speak in

very high terms of him. He would like the place, & from my acquaintance with him, I believe he will suit you. He has strong recommendations from Gen. Fox & Lieut. Capt. Rees, his classmate, & both he and Capt. Bruce can tell you all about him.

I am on Inspecting duty at present in Washington. Would prefer the West, where I am better acquainted. Fredwell is in Washington, Asst. to Chief of Ordnance. I was at City Point Sept 20th, and saw Lieut Mason; he is well, & quite pleased. Lozelle is in Washington, but I have not seen him yet. Many express uneasiness about Sherman's position, but I tell everybody he

can take care of himself. You are probably having a rough time now. The death of Ransom is a great loss to your Army. Hoping to see you again in the West.

I am. Yours very truly

J. D. Bingham

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard
Comd'g. Army of Tenn.

Buchanan J. D.

New York Nov 3 1865

61

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,

New Lost Mountain Nov 4th 1864

Dearest.

You remember I am now but 33 and you have gained a year on me. Can you by searching find any gray hairs! Tonight as I was writing an official letter I wrote Nov. 4th and thought as I looked at the figure "that is fifteen years!" I received a good letter from you Sunday. The days since I measured it heavily as I then had but little time before the column left for Rome. You write almost as if you thought you were going out. Good that you do need any aid as well as from the expression of my sympathy

but be able to communicate with you for some little time after a few days. I do not believe we shall be spared to so much quiet during the campaign as we have been. Edwards will leave to Lizzie & take the Exhibition, says he is coming home to see us when we get to Mobile bay or some other outlet.

(6)

I expect daily news of Jennie & would like to see papa, but poor little Chauncey has little knowledge of him (!) Mary says he wishes you would go & stay with Martha this winter & I also wish it if you can make it all right to do so — good night again — lovingly

Eliz

559

than I have much. If I did not feel so strong a pressure of public duty I would go home. I mean that my heart feels more than I know that you have to struggle on doing my duty & your own for one precious little household, and I know that you are as lively & faithfully working for your country as I am and God will reward the future little abundantly for it by & by. I have marched my army from near Hagerstown back to near Warrenton, separated from all other troops, distance about 60 miles. A rebel "Mosby" came on and we drove him out with sounding cold weather. I went on top mountain to day to get a magnificent view

but it hailed and blew as cold as on Mt. Washington, where you climed, and brought the wind blows so hard I can scarcely write. As soon as this storm is over I will look for pleasant weather. I don't expect to party of pleasure mountain as I might, but I am afraid of a capture of smile. I have, however, been for been very fortunate. Oh, yes I got a letter from written brought which I have not yet read. I written just to tell you that your wounded husband had not forgotten your birthday and would like to send you a kiss & give you a loving kiss before you get too old. What you said about renting a place for Julia & setting her at work suits me. Don't let her time your

out. My hands get so cold I can hardly write, but I think my heart is warm yet. I don't dare be cruel to some wives or little children for I pray God to take care of mine. This "living off a poor country" is terrible. Oh, how much the poor suffer from the wicked machinations of the rich men in the South. Charles is well so is Capt. Gilbreth & Capt. Beebe. Fannie Gray wrote me a pleasant note thanking me for taking him, Beebe, on my staff & giving him a furlough. She & her mother are at the Potters. I have visited their house. Give much love & to my sisters to the children. God bless & keep you in health & comfort till after my return.

Lovingly
Otis

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,
186

Mother's letter is of Oct 18th. She says Lizzie is there and she can't think of letting her go away. She is so much company for her. Ellen. My Mother's letter is very sad. I wrote without knowing I had two sheets together turning over two leaves at a time. You must pick it out. What Rowland said of my Mother coming to stay with him was to relieve her loneliness. She did not accept. Do follow your own dictates in mother's case. I wish I was home to help you & her in many things but you must struggle on a little longer. I hope a kind Providence will help us through this year at the farthest. Dr. Sanders has not reached me yet. I fear I shall

Winnebago City Nov. 7th 1864. (Minnesota Land Office)

Gen Howard

I have followed and rejoiced at your good fortune ever since my first interview.

And for the last six months I have been engaged in promoting the substantial interest of the Soldiers by aiding them in securing under the munificence of the Adminst. a Homestead on the Government Lands. I have already entered for Colored men in 9 A.C. 76. white men & officers 359. and have overcome every obstacle, and so far as I know am the only person, who has embarked in the business, I have seen and obtained papers, permissions, and great assistance from Hon J. M. Edmunds Com. of Genl L. O. Prov. Mar. Marshal Patrick. Gen. Burnside. and others in P. Army.

I have taken the liberty of referring to you, which I hope will not be disallowed, as it is a mark of merit to Soldiers who are so situated as to avail themselves of it, and to me, thus far, I have not made over a paid Chaplains compensation, and for six weeks I sought a Com. as Major or Chapl. with the agreement on my part to do this business free to the Soldier. But my Batt not being entitled, and no law authorising the Apt. I was told there

Murfreesboro Feby. Nov. 7. 1864.

was no impropriety in my charging 3, or 4 Dollars to each one whom I served The Government charges for surveying 10.$ expence of Reg. & Receiver 5.$ revenue Stamps 5 $ & 100 one Dollar for each Farm platt and other necessary incidental expences. I find 20.$ to be necessary to make me a mere support, so far, I have done it for less.

If as I sincerely hope, the Soldiers friends continue to hold the reins of Government, no officer or man will be in danger of losing his Land.: I have entered for 6 Cols, 1 Brig. Gen. 9 Chaplains & Surgeons - Majs &c

My Reg. was discharged and mustered out 5th May. I volunteered to go front with the Battalion, and have done in addition to the Land business the full duty of Chaplain. All my interests are in the Church and Union Cause, in the first I have donated 30 in the second three years. My two Sons are committed and working for both, with these causes I hope to live and die, and if they fail, I see nothing worth living or dying for, but in the first we have the word of the faithful and true witness, and in the Second we have grounds for hope and effort.

I am, Honored Sir,
Yours Truly
H. A. Cornwell Late Chaplain to 1st. Minnesota Reg. Inft. Vols -

I heard from you by Rowland's letter when he & Frank were with you — he writes Chaney a D. D. that was too long for his cradle

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,

Nov 8th Atlanta Ga. 1864

Dearest.

I write you on my birthday — 34 yrs. Just to think of it! My voice sounds young, I think my manner is bright, but if I can believe Dr Duncan I am much more than a year older than you — I am sorry! The cares incident are coming too — but really I don't care so long as I am given health & strength. I sent you 1000 dollars in bonds by Col Wilo. Neither my Senior Asst. Quartermaster to be taken to Nashville

and mailed for Augusta. I will send the numbers of the 11 bonds in my next letter. Believe my heart to be quite as fond for you & the children. I mean work that must now be done. I want to write you a full letter before mailing this which is apt it is too late for me to take it notes and bottles, you call that I allow but - Longfellow was the third ship was I so Otis and is notes not up but I attempt to prevent all but of about [illegible]

Copy

Head Quarters Dept Tenn
Office of the Chief C. S.
Atlanta Ga Aug 9th 64

Col

You will report on the last day of each month the C. S. and A. C. S. on duty in your Corps what duty they are performing and what they are accountable for make this report in tabular form.

You will also report on the 1st 6th 10th 15th 20th 25th and last day of the month the number of rations each Division Commissary has on hand in your Command, and the number of rations each Commissary is issuing on provision returns to Soldiers and the number of Officers and Servants that each Commissary issues to

By Order Maj Genl Howard
(Signed) O Remick
Lut Col & Chief C. S.
Dept Tenn

Received Nov 10th 1864

Copy

Head Quarters Dept Tenn
Office of the Chief C S
Atlanta Geo Nov 18th 1864

Col

After your wagons are loaded make an report to me of the amount in wagons and in the hands of the troops so that I can report to Col Beckwith the day we move Keep me well informed of the workings of foraging parties the amount of beef Cattle Sheep & hogs Corn meal flour Salt & Vegetables taken and by whom and how disposed of Have the Division Commissaries make every proper effort to procure half of the rations from the Country allow nothing to be wasted

Inspect the Stores in wagons every day to see that no packages are broken open or theft committed As soon as you can empty wagons let foraging parties have them to gather Subsistence On the day you move from Atlanta put in to haversacks as follows:

(3) Three days full rations ℔ Bread to last (4) days
(6) Six days full rations Coffee to last (6) days
(3) Three days full rations Sugar to last (6) days
(8) Eight days full rations Salt to last (6) days.
full rations of beef Killed every night

Have Division Commissaries keep on hand from Seventy five to two hundred head beef and keep them close to their troops so that they can slaughter in the evening instead of morning thereby giving soldiers time to cook for the next days March.

By Order of Maj Genl Howard

D. Rennick

Lt Col & Chief of Staff Dept Tenn

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,

Smyrna Campground Nov 11 1864

Dearest

I have just received your letter marked oct. 25 just after your return from Texas. It was a very short one, but I was very glad to get it. I have sent you a check of a thousand dollars — no not a check but ten bonds of 100 dolls. each. I took caution in this letter the numbers and the series. From present appearances we shall be cut off from communication for some little time. I don't know myself when we shall go, but we have stripped for a trip in the enemy's country. You mustn't be uneasy if you don't get a letter or have a dispatch from me for a month. I could not spare Charlie to leave me very well, I thought he had better be with me during this expedition. I am in favor of any course that will conduce to mutual happiness & your own. From what we have heard we must be elected or we have the report that

get up and dressed yesterday morning before any other. He seems to have quite a penchant for "Mary Morrill" He will have to be a very good man to deserve her. If she is as good as she is beautiful. Must be jealous, darling, for you must remember you are my standard of comparison. My kind best regards to Mrs Corey Stiles & his mother. I do hope Dr Hill is here setting him. I shall expect him to join us again if I get into a good permanent camp in the mighty place, but till then he had better have the care of Phoenix. I have established a Head Quarters with Brevet Col. Schaff in charge at Nashville Tenn. It may be moved to Louisville Ky. eventually. This will remain to tell we two apart — May God bless you with much of the presence & influence of His Holy Spirit and aid you in all your difficult & responsible duties. And that he may give us a good, a lasting peace I permit me to join you. The little one at home is always my pet. Yours

Otis

all states as far as heard from have gone for him. McClellan's, Pro-Slavery proclamation, have ruined him, for Providence had to go on with the great work and leave him behind. I don't think he has a bad heart, but he has made a mistake to ally himself with secessionists at such a time as this. I wonder what he will now do - resign or accept a command. I enclose you a short notice of Gen. Rousseau, which you may send to the Journal for publication. It is in no way an exaggeration. I don't know a young officer who has 20 fair to become a great man as Rousseau. He was very handsome and good as well as able. I send you also a copy of my Order after his death. Was much loved by his men. Dr Duncan thought him a very fine boy, says he had many questions to ask about the way we did things here. Was most precious fellow. So she has left Louisville. She thought she could not spare him. Jennie won Dr Duncan's admiration from his persevere-

ance with his new toy. I expect he has some admiration, but I hope he is not so moderate as his father. Chauncy could have Jennie gravely if Uncle Rowland and Aunt Cell have called him a D.D. Mamma must have them both and tell them Papa sends greeting. I hope yet to give you a visit before the Spring. I am not now responsible for the troops on the railroad as the W. & L. Department has transferred all that to Brig. Gen. Whitty. Dear me! I am not sorry as it was difficult to conduct affairs there & here at the same time. He is the field. Gen. Thomas has virtually put his division under Gen. Thomas, which away. Dr. Duncan sent his photograph with his compliments, which you will find enclosed, and his "kindest remembrances". All our troops are now paid, but a few men and many are sending home their money to their families. A great many of them army but not been paid for ten months. Mrs Whittlesey is well and often speaks of you. Jennie glad you were able to visit Mrs Whittlesey. Lillie is quite well

Smyrna Ga Nov. 11th 1864

Major Saunders.
Pnmfa —

On completion of your payment you will immediately report to Major William Allen Chief R.W.D.C. at Louisville Ky. A train will have from this station this evening. Gen. Howard assures me that he will see to it, that you are transported to Chattanooga whenever you finish the pay.

Respectfully &c

Nicholas Vedder
Pnmfa
in chg. pay's of Gen

Rising Station Georgia,
Nov. 12th, 1864

Maj. General Howard:—

Dear Sir,

Accompanying, you will find a note, addressed to me yesterday by Maj. N. Vedder, Paym^r in charge of the Army of the Tennessee, to which I beg the privilege of directing your attention.

Preliminary to other matters, suffer me to state that I had an assignment of five Iowa Regiments to pay — that I was obliged to come upon the field with the rolls in an imperfect condition — that I have laboured since being here, assiduously, and according to orders — and, that in the conscientious performance of my duty, both to the Government and the Soldier, I find myself this evening, only about completing the payment of the third regiment. I have not suffered myself to be annoyed by what others

Paymaster U.S.A.
Nov. 12, 1864

may ~~have~~ have chosen to do, ~~believing~~ thinking, that in the end all would be right. I believe my business to be, to pay the Soldier right, and not dismiss him from the table, merely to suit any convenience of my own – and, so believing, and acting in accordance with the idea, I find myself on the field. The position is one which I had hardly anticipated, but I feel inclined to meet it fairly.

May I ask as a favour, if I am to follow the Brigade, adequate transportation for my Safe, (containing quite a large sum of money) field desk and light baggage: Then, when the army shall settle again – or perhaps, while it is in progress – I may be able to complete the order which has been given me by Maj. Vedder.

I might as well say here, if the army is to move tomorrow, early, no process can be instituted that I can conceive of, which would complete the payment of my assignment, I certainly want several days – and, as I expect to have a supervision of all matters pertaining to the disbursement of public funds entrusted to my care, you will see probably, that the thing is impossible, of getting through.

I will thank you to return the order of Major Vedder, and, if not asking too much, to advise me properly.

Very Respectfully
Yours &c.

W. L. Saunders
Paymr. &c.

Augusta. Nov 13. 1864.

My Dear Papa

I have been out to Grandmas a Good long while, but have now come home have been home two weeks. we are going to go to Seeds to spend the win-ter. Mamma is laying on the lounge and chaney wants to lylo with her. chaney ~~has~~ and Jamie are runing from the big rocking chair to the small one, chaney can say a Good many words he cals potato-es and fritters tato. and he has a name for most everything. Nov. 27 It is sunday night we are at grandmas

have been out here one day.
it is two weeks since I
have written any in this
letter. there is a school
a mile from here that
I went to when I was
here the last time al-
-though I did not study,
I do not think I shall
go to school this winter
perhaps Guy will if we
do we shall have to
ride. are you and unde
charlie well. I am go-
-ing to thy two make
a cormfort bag and
send it to your soldiers.
many kisses to Uncle
charley and yourself.
I am writting in grand-
mas dining room at the
table so are Guy and Mamma.
and Grandma is reading
on the other side of the
table. we brought four
trunks besides chaneys two
chairs. we are going to have
a christmas tree here. I am
sitting with my back
to the fire that makes
me very warm Send my love
to Uncle charley so Goodbye

From your
Affectionate
daughter
Grace E Howard

PS chaney and jamie
are both asleep Lizzie
and I brought the cradle up
from aunt synthia
chaney is in it now.
Goodbye

Augusta Nov 13 1864

Dear Papa

It is sunday afternoon I went to church this fournoon. it is snowing very hard this afternoon for the first time this Fall. the ground begins to look very white now we are all in the library this afternoon how long before you think of coming home. I hope you will come home this Winter. I think we shall have a very good time at school this winter at Grandmothers. I wonder what Chancy will say to the sleighs this Winter. I think Chancy [redacted] would like to ride in a sleigh this Winter very much. Grace sends her love to you and Jimie sends some kisses too. I can go right on with my studies at home I shall need no new books if I

go to school. Mrs. Jackson and Mother send their love to you. Chancy has the sunday school paper and is looking at the pictures with mother. he is talking a great deal about it. Julia is going to be married to a negro from the south, whose name is Fred Brown. she has engaged two rooms in a house on north street

Lucie Nov 2 1864.

We were in Augusta last Thanksgiving day. I can't write my letters very good to night for I am very tired. I had a good deal to do Thanksgiving day helping Mother settle up the winter business. I have a new pair of skats this winter and hope to have a very good time skating. Jamie's birthday is next thursday. I got him a set of nine pins and some peperments. he says he wants an engine, he says that he wants to snap some corn. I think he would burn it up and he keeps asking if the snow will be on the ground his birthday. it is some cloudy so I think there will be enough snow on the ground so that he can have a sleigh ride in the new sleigh that granpa bought last winter of Mr Oliver Gilbert but it is as good as new.

I send my love and many kisses too. I was out on the ice trying it and wet my feet and caught a little cold. thats why I dont feel quite well. give my love to Uncle Charley.

from your son Guy.

Mother says Mr Lane has written to know if you still want to buy his farm $3000.00

Head Qrtrs A Tenn
Nov 14th 64

169

Maj Genl Howard
Commdg Army Tenn

Genl

Genl Cox Commissary came in this morning = He has about ten days rations from this morning of hard bread in wagons and with the men more than that of Sugar & Coffee = Genl Smith I think will have fifteen days when he arrives from what I can learn = I have issued all Salt meat for the troops for the last eight days and we issue two days more to day to the troops that are here and send three days bacon for the two divisions that are to arrive = We are issuing about six ounces tobacco to every non commd Officer and Enlisted Man = I think we will get away from here with about Seventeen days if we go day after tomorrow of H. Bread & twenty Seven Sugar & Coffee & Sixty Salt = Our Cattle will have to be drove out of town under strong guard to graze to day or they will stampede

I have the honor to be
Very Truly
Your Obedient Serv
D. Reynick Sibel
Lt Col

Mr. Chas. Hovey
Nov 14th 1864

My dear Friend Hovey & Family

Come in this morning = We have
had two days rushing since this morning of
last week in Oregon and with the Nebo Mass
that of Oregon & Cattle = Send Sheets &
it is in Town fifteen days while to
run from what I can learn = I have
sent all Sent Meat for the Troops for
that Eight days or at the rate two
days to the Troops that are in
Our Three days leave for the two Brigs
on to Carrollton = We are shipping Cattle
Orders take to send Gen Commissary Officer
to Carrollton Now = I think we will get
from there with Sixty Seventy days
to day of the Transport of Pilots & Cattle
Oregon & Cattle & Sheep Meat = Our Cattle
I have to be down out of Town in a few
days or to Proceed to Ship with Stevens
Gen Thos Ewing to be

Yours Truly
Chas Hovey
Commissary Gen Staff
Gen Thos Ewing

that I do not know when you left Atlanta nor whither you go - But may God go with you - May he appear unto you as unto Jacob at Bethel - may all your battles be fought & won on your knees before your foe - You see your Enemy = Last Nom. 19th Mrs Potter is here but goes home this morn: she wishes me to give you her love & also Charles = We had a letter from Lizzie last Evening - Julia is to be married Monday Evening & L. goes to Leeds then as soon as she can get away - Her family are well = I hope you will have a good Thanksgiving Dinner - eating your feast with thankfulness of heart =

Your affectionate Brother
Rowland C. Ho

Farmington Nov 7. 1864

Dear Brother Oct

Uncle Enoch was in last Evening and said Mr Lane had an opportunity to sell the old farm, & that he can have 3000$ for the same = Uncle E. says he was to write you when this contingency arose and he will do so soon, but you had better write some of us when you receive this if you wish to purchase it =

Henry Mitchell, formerly of Leeds - Son of Warren M. now of Industry writes me a letter from Sheridans Army where he is a member of Co. A. 29th Mass. Reg. asking my interest with you to get him detailed for some duty that he can do

better than that of the line on acct. of a state of his eyes nearly approaching to blindness = I wrote him that I would name it to you but had no expectation that you would be able to do anything with Gen. Sheridan for him = A man by the name of Blake, a friend of his, writes that cousin Silas Lee died at the Sisters Hospital St Louis, the 24th of Oct. of chronic disease = He was sick at the Planters hotel during Sept & this man was with him = I have forwarded his letter to Sarah now in Phila.

Poor Silas - he only lacked goodness to have been a useful man! Blake says nothing of his Lord's preparation for death = His last letter to Sarah that I saw seemed to express penitence = Uncle Ensign thinks Dellie is to leave home Monday next = I have written him & Nesther to come here for Thanksgiving, & I hope they will come = I want to know more of their plans before he goes away = We have had four days of pretty good sleighing & it has been well improved. We had a meeting & contribution for the freedmen last night - & will have a con. for C. C. Thanksgiving day = I do not preach = I go to a neighborhood prayer meeting tonight = I wrote Charles last Monday = I hope the Rebels know as little with regard to your movements as we do = Our accts. are all so conflicting

Watkins Thomas
Rebel deserter

obtain my much wished for relea
As I have stated Sir, I have no sympa
with the Rebels, am a Northerner by
birth & am very willing to obey & abi
by all laws that may be enforced & I
humbly request that you will lend yo
valuable influence Sir, in my behalf
that I may be set at liberty & hope
Sir, that I may shortly be honored with
an answer to this Sir I remain

With Respect
Your Obt Serv
Watkin Thomas
Division No 11
Camp Morton

170

Camp Morton
Indianapolis. Ind. Nov 21st
[1864]

General Howard
"General"

I have the honor Sir, to respectfully present the following petition for your consideration & beg Sir, that you will pardon the liberty I take in troubling your valuable time. Not long since, Sir, I wrote to an Officer whom I supposed to com-mand the Provost Guard of your Corps, but have reason to believe that I addressed the (wrong Officer) and hence, my reason for now writing this. My object Sir in making this petition is to state Sir, that I was conscribed into the Rebel Army during last Feby, & was sent with the 22d Ala. Regt to the front of Dalton at which place I remained until its evacuation by

the Rebel forces, at which time I threw down my arms, left the Regt & went over to Dug Gap Valley & surrendered myself as a Deserter to the Commander of Provost Guard of General Howards Corps. I was then examined by the Commander spoken of above, I told him that I had been shoved into the Rebel Army nolens volens & that being a native of New York & having all my relatives in the North I had left with the hopes of being allowed to take the oath & at at liberty, an immediate advance was ordered & I was sent on to Dalton with other Prisoners, through mistake from Dalton I was sent on to this Prison in which I have been confined ever since. I have applied for the Oath here & hope Sir, that by this means I may

Leeds Novr 22d 1864

My Dear nephew Mr Lane informed me some ten days since that he had decided to sell his farm. as he had said to you and to me he would give you the first offer. he has to day made the terms. For the original farm as it was when he bought (that is the boundaries) with the addition of 14 acres on the south extending the fields 45 rods or more including the spring & stream above Mr Boothbys line, which he got off of Fassers wood lot. price three thousand five hundred dollars.

I regard it as some 200 dollars above what he can readily have. Without the addition as above which he recently purchased Mr Fosse offers him 3000 dollars. & an other purchaser is ready to give the same. I regard the Farm as worth much more than the mere value of the land for farming purposes - by this addition the saving of fence & the addition of an abundance of water. tis probable that the price is some finger on all farms than it was one year ago tis generally estimated that real estate has advanced 50 pr cent within some three miles of the R Road in 13 years or since the commencement to build it. the greatest rise on wood land. of which this farm has a large share some consideration is due to the time

Nov 22d 1864

Mr Lane must wait to get an answer from you which we have fixed at sixty days as the extent with the understanding that you will give as early an answer as is practible, we all feel anxious that you should have the farm and at such price as could be realized readily for it. partly on your mothers account as she would be likely to come to this neighbourhood
Mr Ramsdell who purchased the old farm of John Harrison has sold it for $2,500 within a few days it contains 100 acres about 20 acres & the wood under the hill on the west end & small there has been no other sales of late near here
As Rowland wrote you a few days since I suppose he gave you all the family & local news that would interest you
We have much solicited for you. Gen Sherman & that part of his army with him. Great interest is manifest by the entire community
the result of the election, the tone of the public press & the satisfied demeanor of almost the entire people has inspired me with a confidence and value in our government & institutions which I was never before aware of. surely our chastening has not been in vain. is not the time for our deliverence at hand. Gratitude & humility in view of our nation sum to be merciful

I have been absent from home of late have not seen your mother for weeks but learn her health is good that Rhodephus would have to day for N. York to be absent six months that Lizzie & the children would be here the first of Dec
That our friends generally are well
Silas Lee died at St Louis the 24th ult.
That Perry had gone to Sandusky with his Regt
Sarah his sister is absent on a visit to Boston & York & Philadelphia & perhaps Sandusky & Indiana
the Season mild. have had a few snow all gone not a frost in the ground some much
are sending out vegetables to the 2d Maine Cavalry some of the boys homan furlo Warren is Commander of the post. our boy who went in the 30th works often has been uniformly well kept as pusted of that Regt in Sheridans army
Louisa & the babe are well & both cheerful the boy has as much action as is consistent with a quiet household. Paul Revere is doing well, will earn 160 000 90 to 100,000 net. enough to pay more than 6 per cent on cost is said to have done the best of any road east of Portland
I have written this for page for you & Charles to take at if you have leisure but the other trust you will answer to me
Your mother & the Lane. our pledge love and affection for you & Charles Ensign Otis

Farmington Nov. 22, 1864

Dear Lizzie

We were glad to hear from you & hope Julia is safely married. It seems to me that you have done all & more for her than could be expected. Ella wants to know what you think of Alice's boarding with Julia till she can get a place. If she was there she would be more likely to secure one than here. I got a letter from Charles last night dated the 10th. I suppose they started for — on the 12th. He sent this & you doubtless got one by the last train. He seemed in good spirits & more very approving of Olie! We invited

24th if Chronic disease. A friend of his wrote a letter to Sarah which I have forwarded. My only fears about you & the children this winter is with regard to keeping warm. I want the house well banked up — great wood boxes in all the rooms well filled by the hired man a no. of times per day. Ella joins me in love. We hope to see you here soon after you get settled at Leedy.

Write you please write just a word about Alice's going to Julia's. Love to Guy & Gracie & all the little folks from their loving uncle

Rowland

dell & Mother here Thanks-
giving - but hear ~~the~~ he ~~letter~~
was to go away yesterday=
We still hope Mother will come=
I am sorry Dellie went
away without seeing me
& letting me know what
he has done & proposes to do
about Mothers business affairs=
Sarah has visited Phebe &
returned to N.Y. = Miss Clara
Davis goes to Gardiner to
spend Thanksgiving - She
has been here since Saturday=
She will go to Augusta
before she returns, to visit
the Hospitals &c = Sarah
goes to Bath with Horace to-
morrow & will come up
to Leeds when he has
made his visit in B=
Cousin Silas Lee died
at Lisbon Hospital Oct.

dinnerd with the children to spend Thanksgiving day. but I did not accept as I should have had to make a very short, hurried visit. Julia came back to do the ironing Tuesday and to cook Wednesday. and then I did not have her after that. We had a feast of a sermon in the morning from Mr McKenzie I will send you a copy when published as I presume it will be. Mrs Jackson stayed till I came away. We came together on our journey as far as Brunswick. I sent Aunt Mary a jar of pickles of my own make. she will think it quite a present. I received the ten "bonds" you send, and Guy and I settled all bills before leaving. I did not have money enough as you had invested this last in Bonds. so I sold or rather had a 5/20 bond (5000.00) converted into money. I left three hundred dollars on deposit. I have not taken all the money Uncle Edward collected and have there one hundred sixty seven dollars. I dont know as you care to know about my financies, but you might. Guy and Grace finished their letters ~~last~~ this evening. the letters they commenced two weeks ago. Morning. I left my letters last evening and will now finish. I dont know what I wrote morning for a few lines above, for it is three o'clock in the afternoon. Rowland came down to day and will return this evening. I will send these letters by him. Charles is almost sick to-day — cold, getting teeth

to be sick with this. Mother seems quite well now. She went to Lewiston to day. I came out here I cannot get to Farmington. I did not get the letter I wrote to Rowland Thanksgiving day. I wrote to Mr Bradford and told him the news. Grace has written you since I wrote you — two weeks or more. I will begin back as far as Julia's wedding which took place last Monday evening. I trust she has got an honest, industrious husband. She engaged two rooms, and as she and the children are well clothed for the Winter. I do not see why they may not get on very well for the Winter. I gave her two bedsteads, bedding she had used, table, chairs, tub &c, and from the time she came to me up to the time she went away I paid out one hundred dollars in money, besides sewing for them and giving garments partly worn. I dont feel that I did too much. but only kept them comfortable while with me and did not let them leave me

without fixing them up as well as I could for the winter. I found it best not to let them have too much at a time for neither of them - the mother or children knew how to take care of their things properly. I dont regret having had them this length of time but I would not like to go through the same again, and as Aunt Caddy said I hope I ~~wont~~ won't have any "returned missionary on my hands"

Julia was married at our house by Rev. Mr. McKenzie. Mr Bosworth's family, Guy, Grace, Mrs Jackson, Mrs Partridge and George Stinson, (the Capt. and his mother could not come out in the rain) were present at the ceremony, and Julia had four of her friends come into the Parlor with her & Mr Brown. The Bride & Bridegroom came in first followed by the other two couple. They returned to the dining room after the ceremony was over where the table of refreshments was all ready for them. I went out soon after and cut the ice cream and Guy took it into the Parlor to my friends, Grace taking and passing around the basket of cake. I have just been telling Mother about the wedding, and what a good funny time we had. And now here we are at Mother's. I regretted somewhat leaving Augusta, and all the good people, but know I shall enjoy being with Mother very much. I feel that we both have very good friends in Augusta. I certainly am very much attached to the people there. Mrs Blaine gave a very pretty party just before I came away, they have a new Piano, and it being something new for them as they never had one before - it was a musical entertainment - some very fine singers and musicians present. Mr Bosworth invited me to go with him - his wife was not well enough to go. Mr & Mrs Gilbert met them and took me home, for which I was very much obliged as it had snowed during the evening. I was invited over to the