
2392 1/1/1865

From: Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: Dear Bro. Otis [OO
Howard]

OOH-2340

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

Farmington Jan 1, 1865 [1865 was written in pencil]

Dear Bro. Otis

I wish you a Happy New Year & Ella who sits behind me joins in the same wish heartily. It has been our communion Sab. and we have had a very good New Years day. This A.M. I preached on "Joy in the Holy Ghost" & this P.M. on "They gave him wine mingled with mirrh, but he accepted it not," deducing the principle that we are not to accept the stupefying drafts that the world offers us in our trials but drink the cup our Fathers hand offers & prepares –knowing that all things will work together for our good at last. I have just returned from our evening Concert of prayer for the conversion of the world. I have now the Abbott School of 60 & some 25 Students of the Normal School in my meeting & these are an interesting class of young persons.

We congratulate you on the taking of Savannah & sympathize in your disappointment at the loss of Hardee & army. We would give something to know what you will do next. We fear a concentration that will outnumber you if you march overland & do not embark. But God will direct. Our 300,000 more are in danger of being conscripts & substitutes to too large an extent. Nothing much short of a miracle can save me from a Draft this time, but I dont worry any –if God thinks I can serve my country better some where else, He will send me.

Ella Dadie & I made a little visit to Leeds on Friday & found Mother, Lizzie & family all quite well. They were without a girl & poor Lizzie was at work about house, but Ella thinks she prefers even that to the wear & tear of housekeeping in Augusta with such girls as she has had. It is almost impossible to get a girl for Mother that will stay "for love or money" Mother is peculiar & spoils her girls by talking to them & "paying them attentions" and she is too old to change –especially in her own home. Colored girls dont seem to suit us Yankees very well. Alice has a good place at Bath which I hope she will be able to retain. Julia is enjoying wedded bliss in Augusta.

Chancy is such a sweet little fellow, so fat quiet & good tempered that everybody loves him. He says but few words but seems glad to see Uncle Rowland. "J" is the sauce as usual. He & Grace & Dadie & Guy had a fire in the South Chamber & kept that for a play house & had good noisy times there.

Your little wife grows more & more lovely in character. Her trials have been a blessing. Mother thinks she must sell the place, I believe, or that she cannot get on there alone. Uncle Ensign is anxious to have you buy our old place. If you were rich enough "to keep it in the name" & to buy it for nothing else, I would farm it. Mr Lane is offered 3000\$ I believe & cousin Theresa Howard's husband wishes to purchase it. We are in hopes to see Charles, if not you, & talk over these things before long.

Tell Charles, I received his letter of the 17th ult, and took it to Leeds for the rest to read & Mother has sent me hers. I dont see what has become of our letters sent to Nashville. The failure at Wilmington will encourage the Rebels again for a while, I suppose.

We have had one week of the very coldest weather, with snow piled into awful heaps, but last week was mild & rainy.

I send off 50\$ today to the Am. Board. In it was included 10\$ from Charles. Dont forget our great Religious & Benevolent Societies. Help us what you can occasionally that we may go thro. the war, keeping up our Christian outposts in heathen lands. I mean to expend a 10th this year in Benevolence & to be systematic about it. If I am not, the "World, the flesh & the Devil" get the first appropriations & Christ gets none! Sometimes I have feared that my patriotism was getting uppermost of my Christianity, but I try to feel that what I do for Country, I do for X, since such precious interest of his Kingdom seem bound up in our land.

Davie has been to Church today & behaved very well. Frankie Sargent boards with us –his mother is visiting in Brooklyn. I saw Uncle Ensign & Laura. They were well & take much pride in their little "Ennie" Uncle E. is town liquor agent! But I will take too much of your time. Be assured of our love & prayers in your behalf.

Rowland

2393 1/1/1865

From: Lizzie [Howard]

To: Dearest [OO Howard]

OOH-2341

Leeds Me

Source: Bowdoin

Leeds Me Jan 1st 1865

Dearest,

I will begin the New Year by writing a letter to you. A happy New Year to you! May peace come with the New Year, and you home to remain with us. I will be hopeful of the future, and trust we are to be reunited before many long months. You had not learned that we came to Leeds. I hope your letters will soon be directed to here. They go to Augusta first now, making them one day longer en route.

I suppose it is all for the best that we are here. Shall try to be as cheerful and happy as I can, that others may be around me. I have a great desire to keep well that I may be able to look after and take proper care of the children. I have not heard from Augusta since I left, only once through Dea Turner who said our house looks lonely. If we were only as far away as Winthrop I could drive down and not call it a journey. I think we wont try to go much of any where as it is, but be happy at home and glad to see whoever takes the trouble to come to see us.

Dellie is home as yet. He brought Miss Rosa Dean here to spend a few days, in fact she is to remain until he goes away. They seem very happy together, and as he keeps her mostly to himself I know her very little. He asked me yesterday one question, "How do you like Rosa?" which took me by surprise and I could'nt think of anything to say but that "She seems like a very pleasant girl" where upon he remarked that "She doesn't talk a great deal".

We had a delightful visit from Rowland, Ella and David last Friday. They arrived at the house at quarter before eleven and left same day at half past three. Jamie and Dadie had a good time playing horse with Dadie's new reins.

Mrs Greble remembered us at Christmas, and sent me a long letter and Grace a book. She has also a pair of rectangles for you that she has worked.

I could not prepare for Christmas before I came here, and therefore Santa Clause did not visit us. (Dellie brought the children books and Rowland sent them presents)

I would'nt live in the country all my life if I could have my choice. We started to go to Church today –tipped over getting into the road –Mother, Guy , Jamie and myself. Nobody hurt, and Mother proposed to go with Guy. I did not dare to trust them but sending the children back got in myself and started. The roads are full of holes. We went as far as Mr F. Lothropps and turned back because we were very late and had to walk the horse and the weather was growing colder.

Mother has raked up the fire and gone to bed, and I will not sit here alone but finish my letter in the morning if I can send to the Depot. Good night.

I left my writing last evening and resume it again this evening, Dearest, after all the children have gone to bed. Tonights paper gives you a new command the "Dep't of the Missouri" I hope it is not true on some accounts. You would come home before you took command, that we should <believe>.

Give much love to Charlie and tell him his last letter to Mother came just the right time. She had been baking in the brick oven, some men been in to settle for their work on the "timber", which hindered her somewhat, but Dellie was here to do the most of it. I in the mean time had let the children take care of themselves (sometimes they would dispute then look cross or cry), so I could wash the dishes, and finish ironing. Just as all was finished and Mother was about to make the toast for tea, without having had time to take a rest Charlies letter came. I cannot tell you how much it seemed to refresh her. She sat down and read it aloud to us all. Charlie did'nt know he was writing for my pleasure when he told about the boquet on your table. It was very pleasing to Mother indeed. Mother puts great confidence in his coming home before spring.

She often speaks of selling in the spring. I want her to do as she thinks best. I don't know of but a man who has expressed a wish to <[CHECK ORIGINAL left edge glued> the farm Mr Ramsdell –Uncle Ensign's nearest neighbor. I don't suppose you will purchase the old farm as none of the family will advise it. I am anxiously waiting your answer to Uncle Ensign. You would miss Col Gilmore very much indeed were you to come here this winter. His vacant chair looks lonely even sometimes it seems as if he just came in. And at other times that I shall soon hear his voice in the dining room.

It is quite sickly in town the diptheria is being quite fatal among children. Our turn may come, we know not.

I had to punish Jamie to-night I would have as soon have been punished myself. He is the very essence of mischief. He is always sorry as soon as he hurts Chancy but he cant let him alone.

Wednesday Jan 10th. I find this unfinished letter in my port-folio and do not know why I have not sent it. I have written another letter, on the 8th and will enclose all and send you.

Charlie's arrival we saw in the Boston Journal. He may be here to night. Rowland will be here on his way from Portland. Chancy is crying and the man is waiting for these letters.

Ever you own
Lizzie

2394 1/3/1865

From: M.R. William Grebe

To: Major Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2342

St. Louis, Mo

Comdg. Army and Deptmt.
Of the Tenn.

Source: Bowdoin

[3]

St. Louis, Mo, January 3d, 1865

Major Genl. O.O. Howard
Comdg. Army and Deptmt. Of the Tenn.
Genl:

Having been dismissed of the service of the United States by sentence of a Court Martial for accepting, a challenge to fight a duel "and for having fought a duel" and being now unable to enter the service again I most respectfully beg of you to grant my application which I will send with this same mail to Gnl. Wm. Clark, your Adjct. Genl.

Gnl., I served two years and a half in the army of the United States, tried always to do my duty and was shortly after leaving you appointed and commissioned as Major. I was not the cause of the unfortunate duel and tried to avoid it. My opponent himself confessed when before the Court Martial that he had caused the Duel and that he had wronged me. He also begged me to excuse him and we are friends now. Genl. John B. Gray, Adjct. Genl of Mo. who has the kindness to write a few lines in my behalf will give you the prove that although I acted against the articles of war, which I deplore, I hardly could avoid it and that I acted as an officer and a gentleman in the old country has to act.

You know yourself, Genl., that I have been only a very short time in this country and that I have been educated in an other country, where manners and habits are different.

Gnl, take my best congratulations for the honor you have gained by gallantry making through the heat of Rebellion and by taking Savannah. My best wishes for your further success are always with you and I never in all my life will forget the time, when I had the honor to be a member of your staff.

Gnl, hoping you will excuse my writing and wishing you would grant my request, I remain, Gnl

Your most obdt svt
M.R. William Grebe

My address is: care of Hermann Meyer
United States Savings Institution
St Louis Mo. Corner markes and 2nd street

[Written sideways on the back page]

Grebe, Capt.
St Louis Mo. Jan 3, 1865
(1 enclosure)

2395 1/3/1865

From: John B Gray

To: Maj Genl O O Howard

OOH-2343

Source: Bowdoin

Headquarters, State of
Missouri,
Adjutant General's
Office,
St. Louis

Savannah

[2]

Headquarters, State of Missouri,
Adjutant General's Office,
St. Louis January 3d 1865

Maj Genl O O Howard
Savannah
General

Captain Grebe 4th Mo Cavalry Volunteers late of your staff has been cashiered for fighting a duel.

It is my impression that thru ameliorating circumstances connected with the affair which will show that Grebe was forced into it, and compelled under the ideas of honor to accept the challenge.

I sincerely hope that if you can do anything for him in procuring a mitigation of this sentence, you will do so.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servant
John B Gray
Adt Genl of Mo.

2396 1/4/1865

From: Thomas S. Dewing

To: Major Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2344

Source: Bowdoin

The U.S. Christian
Commission,
General Sherman's
Army
Hilton Head, So
Carolina

[6, 7]

The U.S. Christian Commission,
General Sherman's Army
Jan F. 4th 1865
Hilton Head, So Carolina

Major Genl Howard
Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that I am a delegate of the U.S. Chris'n Commission, sent to this Department with instructions to connect myself with Gen Sherman's Army & to follow in its wake.

Please inform me whether I may attach myself to your head quarters in the same capacity in which Mr Lawrence has acted.

There is a Mr Hitchcock who wold like to act in the relation. We have a supply of stationery & reading matter, pens, pencils, thread &c &c, which we are anxious to bring with us.

Please reply at your Earliest Convenience.

Yours very respectfully
Thomas S. Dewing

[Written on the last page in another hand.]

Dewing, Thos. S.
Christian Comm.
Hilton Head, S.C.
Jan. 4th 1865

2397 1/4/1865

From: JG Foster

To: Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-2345

Source: Bowdoin

Headquarters,
Department of the
South
Beaufort, S.C.

Headquarters, Department of the South
Beaufort, S.C., Jan 4th 1864 [i.e. 1865] 1 A.M.

Gen Howard,
General,

I learn that you are here. Please hurry off the steamer as fast as they are unloaded.

I have landed my cargo and go for another. I did not find any landings at Thunder-bolt, as you promised. The "Crescent" in consequence, could not get off the bank after being loaded, and was thus stuck, when I left, with 1200 men on board. I have provided steamers to bring your wagons, teams &c; but it will be absolutely necessary to have two or three landings made in order to embark them with anything like the necessary celerity.

Yours in haste.

JG Foster [John Gray Foster]
MG Vols

2398 1/4/1865

From: Arth. Barclay

To: Dear Sir [OO Howard]

OOH-2346

Savannah

Source: Bowdoin

[10]

Savannah,
Jany. 4th, 1865

Dear Sir,

Miss Johnston, of this City being desirous of an interview with you, I beg leave to introduce her as the sister of Mrs. Molyneux the wife (I should rather say, the Widow,) of the late Edmund Molyneux, British Consul at this Port.

I have the honour to be,
Dear Sir,
Your obedient Servant
Arth. Barclay

2399 1/6/1865

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2347

Source: Bowdoin

Head-Quarters
Department and Army
of the Tennessee,
Savannah

[583]

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,
Savannah, Jan. 6th 1865

Dearest,

I have just written by the hand of Lt. Sladen a letter to Charles, but I can never afford to write you by other hands, while I have one hand left. I have been really unfortunate having received from you, only one letter since arriving at the coast. I really don't feel like writing, I want to go home so much that writing letters is dreadfully unsatisfactory, don't you think so Lizzie. I saw Gen & Mrs Saxton at Fort Royal (Beaufort S.C.) Mrs Lee's (C.G.) house. Oh, how lovely the place is and how neat & orderly the Gen. keeps his post & Colony. It seems almost like sacrilege to allow my rough soldiers to disturb their quiet and order.

Whom do you think I met on the wharf at Beaufort? It was Whiteman Adam's brother who has transferred his jewelry store from Bangor to that place. He is not very lame now. He inquired for you and the children, very affectionately. I had but a moment to see him after we found each other.

As I wrote Charles I shall (Deo volente) go down there again Monday and probably begin soon to operate from that quarter. The climate is so delightful here and everything so pleasant that I cant help constantly wishing you were here to share them with me, but there is a good time coming, darling.

Guy and Grace wrote papa real good letters and I mean to get them two finished in reply before the mail goes. As I cant see Jamie & Chancy I steal little children in the street sometimes & bring them in to have a good play with.

Mrs Gordan who came from Chicago originally having married a southern young gentleman, seems to be very glad to have been brot. Within our lines. She is about your age the niece of Gen. Hunter. (Paymaster H. you know at Augusta.) She sent two little girls Nellie & Daisy in to see me. I had a very good time with them. I think Jamie would like to play with them.

Mrs GW Smith is here. I have not called to see her and do not think of it. I suddenly met her at Gen. Sherman's the other day and she smiled very pleasantly and looked very beautiful as ever. I have heard that she said such bitter things north that she had to be sent beyond the lines and that she had by no means behaved well. So that though I would have you to see GW, had he been here, I would not Mrs G.W. If she is a good woman & I am mistaken I am really glad of it.

I have sent you some money by Charles. Uncle Ensign has written me about our old farm at Leeds that Mr Lane will sell at \$3000. I am willing to buy and have delegated Charles to talk with you about it. I can pay Mr Lane by instalments. I am having a copy made of my last official report to send to Mother for a present to her. I thought it would please her.

Give much love to all.

Lovingly
Otis

2400 1/6/1865

From: OO Howard

To: My dear little daughter
[Grace Howard]

OOH-2348

Source: Bowdoin

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

[413]

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,
Savannah, Ga. Jan 6th 1865

My dear little daughter

I have just finished a letter to your precious Mamma and will now say a word directly to yourself. You hardly know what a really pleasant place this is. While you have snow & cold, bleak fields with the wind whistling through the trees, we have it warm & sunny. The trees here are many of them always green. One kind is called the live oak. Almost all the streets in Savannah are bordered with these oaks. The leaves are small, of a dark green color and very numerous.

I went down the river (perhaps you can find the Savannah river on the map) I went down it the other day in a steamer with as many troops as the vessel could carry. We went out a little way on the ocean –this is what the Sailors call “going outside”. We kept the land in sight all the time –after skirting along for forty miles we turned up into the Beaufort river. On the left hand just as we entered the river we saw “Hilton Head”. We entered the river just after dark. I went to bed and so did the Soldiers covering the deck and stairs and alleys of the Steamer. The Steamer went on up to Beaufort stopping about 9 o'clock. We slept till daylight and then went on shore. Come to think I went ashore on our arrival at night and was challenged by a negro soldier on my way back to the boat, by “Who comes there”.

The next day I breakfasted with Gen. Saxton and then we rode off for ten miles on a beautiful broad straight-road. On our right & left we saw neat little huts where the negroes live. The negro men are soldiers mostly and look very nice. When we returned a negro band played on some very bright brass instruments. How clean and nice their instruments & their clothing looked! The children were clean & pretty well dressed on the whole every body in Beaufort & near them looked happy.

Just at evening I visited the hospitals where some of our own poor wounded soldiers were. How glad they all were to see me. I then got a little steamer the “Enoch Dean” and went down river and back to this city Savannah getting in in the morning.

We had a little boy from Boston & his mother on board. He had just come from Boston. He & I had a fine time. His father was Capt of the Str.

Now Good night my darling little daughter. Much love to all –not forgetting Grandma. Tell me what present papa sends by Uncle Chas. God bless you. Kiss Guy, Jamie & Chancy for me.

Aff. Yr. father
OO Howard

2401 1/6/1865

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dear brother [CH Howard]

OOH-2349

Source: Bowdoin

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

[382]

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,
Savannah, Ga. Jan 6th 1865

Dear brother,

As I feel a little tired I will write you by the hand of Sladen. We miss you very much but hope you are having a good time on the journey, at Washington and at home. I have just returned from Port Royal Island at which place I have already concentrated the 17th Corps. I find everything beautiful and orderly there under the command of Gen. Saxton. Could I have anticipated the beauty and appropriateness of the place I would have made arrangements when we first arrived for Lizzie and the children to meet me there but I shall probably be far on our journey before she could come in answer to this letter.

I find Mrs. Saxton a very modest and pleasant lady who materially aids her husband in his benevolent labors. I am still at Mr Molyneux's. We have just heard of his death.

I shall leave for Beaufort Monday. A letter came for you from Rowland which I opened and will enclose to you as there may be something in it you would like to know.

Genl. Sherman gave an entertainment yesterday evening in which were preset all the General officers and their staff, or nearly all, the Admiral, his Staff and several naval officers besides. A few ladies graced the entertainment.

I recd a letter from Mr. Webb of Boston yesterday. You must see him on your way back as also Frank Gilman and our cousins at Mr. Hazards and give them all our kindest regards. I shall be glad to know how Lizzie and the children and Mother enjoy their presents. Lizzie must look out and not lose Jamie and Chancie in the snow banks and Guy will have to move very lively to keep Jack Frost from biting him. I believe with the hair and the bonnet little girls never do freeze their ears so Gracie can take heart, but the boys are in great danger. I have known their ears, nose, fingers and even their little toes to ache so hard as to make them cry. I ain't sure but I might have cried myself when I was so little that Uncle Jack treated me with disrespect. All well.

Your affectionate brother
Otis

[The above was not written in Otis' hand, although the signature was his.]

2402 1/7/1865

From: O.O. Howard

To: My dear boy [Guy
Howard]

OOH-2350

Savannah, Ga

Source: Bowdoin

[604]

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,
Savannah, Ga Jan 7th 1865

My dear boy

As last night's mail arrived, Col. Markland, who has it in charge for the whole army, brought me a nice looking letter from home, directed in Mamma's hand and mailed Dec. 27th. On opening I found it contained two little letters enclosed once from you and one from Gracie directed, "My dear papa". Your dear papa was very glad to get them and glad to find you & his dear, precious children so happy.

Your presents were very nice. Papa's could not get home by Christmas and he is a little afraid yours might freeze up on the way but the leather part surely will not freeze. Papa hardly has a right to claim the present as it came from members of his staff.

So Jamie thinks he can write & I would'nt wonder if Chancy had some such notion. Guy when you write you must not begin quite so many words with capital letters. Let us see. A Capital should begin every book, chapter, note & sentence. Also the names of persons and places. The pronoun I & the interjection O should be capitals. You must look up the rule in the spelling book. You spelt just with an e thus: jest. That is the way many people pronounce it, but it is just. Gracie put an a for an e in hatchet spelling the word hatchat. But the two letters were very nicely spelt. Gracie must make her letters a little smaller so as to write what is called a lady's hand.

We are to have a review of the 15th Army Corps before General Sherman today, and this will end the reviews for the present. I wish you & the children could be here to enjoy it.

You must give much love to Mamma. I hope that Guy really loves his mamma. He can never know how much his mother loves him. How many night she has watched over him and how tenderly, anxiously, she has cared for him. Give love to Grandma. She is papa's mother, who once watched & cared for him, a little boy with the same love.

Papa is very glad you are all so well & so happy. Dr Duncan says it is a standing order to send his kind regards to Mrs Howard & the children. Do you remember him. I am hoping you are always a truthful, frank good boy and that God will keep your heart warm & guide you by His counsel.

Your loving father
O.O. Howard
M.G.

2403 1/7/1865

From: J. W. Royce

To: Major General Howard

OOH-2351

Principal Grammar
School No 37
New York

Commander of the Army of
Tennessee

Source: Bowdoin

[11]

New York Jan'y 7th 1865

Major General Howard
Commander of the Army of Tennessee
Dear Sir:

Charles D. Miller, son of the late Col. Miller of Pennsylvania, who fell in the battle of Fair Oaks is desirous of obtaining, through your influence, an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Master Miller has been a pupil in Grammar School No 37, in the City of New York, for the last four years, and has during that time advanced, steadily, from class to class until, at the precocious age of eleven years, we find him fully prepared for admission to the "Peoples' College"- our own Free academy

His habits are all good, and his attendance to business, and the various duties assigned him are exemplary in the highest degree! So much so, that I am confident, if appointed to the position he solicits, he will prove himself deserving of your patronage and distinguished consideration.

With the best wishes for your personal welfare and the success of the great enterprise in which you are engaged, I remain, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,
J. W. Royce
Principal Grammar School No 37

2404 1/7/1865

From: J.W. Chickering

To: Dear General [OO
Howard]

OOH-2547

New York

Source: Bowdoin

[30]

New York
Jan 7, [1865]

Dear General

The prompt reply of your Secretary reached me here, just as our Committee had voted to authorize me to add to my first request of you the additional favor & benefit of presiding at the Saratoga Conventions.

I can imagine, my dear Sir, what your modesty may incline you to say to this.

But you are a man of conscience also; & I am sure that if you knew the importance of our having a Christian man –a man known & a military man in that position, you c'd not decline if other duties permit you to attend.

Such men as Dr. Cuyler, Wm E. Dodge, Wm A Booth, & my humble self, feel that your name w'd almost ensure attendance, while your presidency w'd give just the character we wish to the whole thing.

I write in haste & <haste>, in a <counting> -corner, <hearing> shouts for Grant, - but hope I have made my wishes plain, & the case clear.

You will need a week at Saratoga by that time –Aug 1st - & your million proteges will be all the better for it. At least so thinks

Yrs very truly
J.W. Chickering

2406 1/9/1865

From: Wm Smyth

To: Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2353

Bowd. Coll. Brunswick

Source: Bowdoin

[12]

Bowd. Coll. Brunswick Jany 9th ~ 65

Gen. O.O. Howard,
Dear Sir,

My Son, Lieut Wm H. Smyth, of the 15 Me, U.S. Infy. Has at length been paroled after a confinement of nearly fifteen months in the Libby, Macon, Charleston and Columbia prisons. He has had the usual experience of great privation and suffering at the hands of the Rebel authorities. He returns, however, as I trust, with constitution unimpaired, and will soon be ready for active Service again, upon which he is desirous to enter with the least practicable delay.

He still retains an earnest desire for a place on your Staff. I can, with greater confidence than I made the application before, recommend him for that or any similar situation. In the campaign under Rosecrans to the battle of Chattanooga, in which, through the blundering of the officer in command of his Brigade, he was unfortunately taken a prisoner, he acquired a distinguished reputation for bravery, efficiency, and all the qualities of a good soldier. Those best acquainted with him, and competent judges in the case, are, I believe, unanimously of the opinion that he is abundantly qualified for, and is deserving of some higher position than the mere command of a company, the position which he held in the battle of Chattanooga, and to which by the changes in his Regiment, it is probable he is now permanently advanced. I think, my dear Sir, you would find him a young man after your own heart, modest, brave, and efficient in the discharge of duty. His Major, one of the best officers of his grade, who fell by his side in the bloody conflict at Chattanooga, placed the greatest reliance upon him in every emergency.

It is a sore trial to my son that he has lost the opportunities of your recent brilliant campaign, and I am the more desirous on that account to secure for him the desired situation on your Staff, or some similar position; and I shall be very grateful for any assistance you may be able, and deem it proper to render him.

You made an application, I think for him, before your transfer from the Army of the Potomac, which failed to be granted. In the change of circumstances I think I could now secure the success of the application. My son's regiment still in Thomas' Corps, and at last advices was at Look-out mountain.

I may seem, my dear Sir, to have spoken somewhat strongly of my own Son. I should not have done so, except upon testimony spontaneously furnished me, so ample as to leave no doubt on the subject. You may be pleased to know that I have now three sons in the Service of the country, - all of my boys of age for military duty, with the exception of Egbert, who has put in the field a good and faithful substitute. I have observed with the greatest interest your own invaluable services, and pray that you may be preserved unharmed to the end of this wicked rebellion which your gallant army has recently given so staggering a blow.

Most truly and respectfully yours
Wm Smyth

2407 1/9/1865

From: E.B. Webb

To: Dear Genl. [OO Howard]

OOH-2354

Boston

Source: Bowdoin

[13, 14]

Boston. Jany 9, 1865.

Dear Genl.

Next best to seeing you, is seeing your Brother, the Colonel. Charlie reached my chh about ¼ before 11 Sunday Morn'g – reached the City about 8 in the morn'g – left the pony at Newport on the Steamer. Pony comes along to-day at 11 o'k, & is to be forward to-night if possible.

The Col. goes to-day, or to-morrow at farthest, he says: took a little cold on the Steamer, is otherwise well.

We are glad eno' to hear all about you: you history-makers: & to have a host of questions ans'd – what a campaign – what a success. How favored of God in your march. How nobly Genl. Howard did Savannah!

But now Genl. hear a fool – a fool in Military Maters – dont let success make you venturesome, or rash, or reckless. You have done one thing new under the sun, dont be too sure that you can repeat it. When Napoleon started on his northern campaign, he consulted the records of 40 years & found that the cold weather had been such in all that time but once as to defeat his campaign. But the cold killed him. The snows covered his stiffened dead.

In <moving> north, you must encounter terrible rains – your march thro' Geor'a was remarkable in this respect – free from rains. Lee is detaching forces & sending them South, it is said – has recalled everything from the Shenandoah – the rains, the hostile forces, the distance from a base – troops worn out with marching & fighting, animals exhausted, it will require wisdom & energy more than human for such work. Now Genl. dont think me a croaker. I have the most unlimited confidence in Genl. Sherman & Genl. Howard, but there are some things that cannot be done. History shows that they have not been done. Be wise, be sure, so says the fool. And God bless you is the prayer of us all.

Do one thing for me, cant you? Send me a copy of your report from Look-out-valley to Atlanta; from Atlanta to Savannah? Do & I'll send you anything you want.

Cant I send you anything by the Col. or do anything thro' any channel that will be of service to you?

Yrs to command, friend, brother, fellow-worker, with love, & admiration.

E.B. Webb

Love to Whittlesey.

O.O. Howard
Comdr. Army of the Tenn'see

Always come to my house, going or coming, by night or by day.

2408 1/9/1865

From: D.H. White

To: Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-2355

Waltham

Source: Bowdoin

[15, 16]

Gen Howard,
Honored Sir,

Will you please have the kindness to forward the enclosed as directed and oblige one of your many Maine Union friends. I rejoice that Savannah is in such good hands.

Any kindness shown to old poor uncle & daughter will be received with gratitude by their Northern friends.

I used frequently to hear my cousin Maud Tupper speak of you. And my sister Mrs E.J.G. Hooper had had the pleasure of meeting you.

With much respect
(Miss) D.H. White

Waltham Jan. 9 / 65

2409 1/9/1865

From: Mrs. C.S. Wilson

To: Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-2356

Source: Bowdoin

at Mr. H Gillums corn.
Liberty &
Habersham Street
Savannah Georgia

G.S. Army
Head Quarters
Near the Park
Savannah
Ga

[17]

Mrs. C.S. Wilson
at Mr. H Gillums corn. Liberty &
Habersham Street
Savannah Georgia
Jan 9th 1865

Gen Howard
Dr Sir -

With gratitude I acknowledge the receipt of One Hundred dollars (in a U.S. Treasury Note) from your honorable hand on the 7th Inst & which, as soon as I am able to do so, I will refund with interest.

Very Respectfully
C.S. Wilson

Gen Howard
Dr Sir

I cannot close this note, without saying to you: that I can never forget your kindness to me. It has rarely been my lot to meet with such a christian gentleman as in yourself and then your charm of manner and conversation that passes all description –so cheerful –so unassuming –so free, and easy, and frank, and kind, and gay) –that I at once forgot my embarrassment, and felt myself by the side of an old and familiar friend.

Respectfully & Gratefully
C.S. Wilson

Gen Howard
G.S. Army
Head Quarters
Near the Park
Savannah
Ga

2410 1/11/1865 *From:* Charles D Miller

To: Major-Gen [OO] Howard

OOH-2357

New York

Commanding "Army of the
Tennessee"

Source: Bowdoin

[18]

New York January 11th '65

Major-Gen Howard
Commanding "Army of the Tennessee"
Dear Sir,

Your note of the 2nd of May 1864 to Colonel McKeen was forwarded to me by his relatives. He was killed before it had time to reach him. I cannot thank you too much for your kindness in granting me your recommendation to West Point at large. I am now about to avail myself of it. I herewith send you the recommendations of my school teacher and my pastor, hoping they will be sufficient.

I am but 15 years of age, but could easily pass for 17, and am as stout as most boys of that age. I will be 16 next September which is 3 months, I believe, after I would be required to enter the Academy should I get the appointment. I shall do my best to do honor to your recommendation.

Please forward the recommendations to me sealed and directed to the Secretary of War. If convenient please send them immediately. The reason for my wishing to have it sent to me is that I wish to concentrate all my influence, and send it in one batch to the Secretary. Address reply to Chas. D Miller 84th St. between 1st and Avenue A South side

Yours Very Respectfully
Charles D Miller

2411 1/12/1865 *From:* E.A. Nason

To: Maj. Gen. O O Howard

OOH-2358

Augusta, Maine

Source: Bowdoin

[19]

Augusta, Maine, Jany 12 / 65

Maj. Gen. O O Howard

Dear Sir,

My brother Henry Nason is about visiting Savannah intending to engage in business there.

As he will be a stranger, & among strangers, I take the liberty of giving him a letter of introduction to you.

He is & ever has been a truly loyal & patriotic man & an earnest supporter of our government, and will not abuse any confidence you may place in him.

He is a native of Augusta, but has been an active business merchant in New York city for many years, and is well calculated to succeed in plans, which he can make known to you.

I will add what I know will be of interest to you, that he is a professed follower of our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ.

We all rejoice at the success of your great expedition which has opened Savannah to our people, & which bids fair, with Gods blessing to do so much towards bringing this wicked rebellion to an end.

Hoping that such may be the case, and that soon you may be permitted to return to your family & home, long to enjoy the blessings of peace, for which you have made so great a sacrifice.

I am respectfully yours,
E.A. Nason

2412 1/12/1865 *From:* Lindsey Matchett *To:* General [OO] Howard

OOH-2359 Colchester McDonough
Co. III

Source: Bowdoin

[23, 24]

January 12th 1865
Colchester McDonough Co. III

General Howard
Dear Sir,

It is with sorrow that I take pen in hand to write you this letter. I have just received the sad news of the death of my only Son –George W. Matchett, Company D 6th Mo. Vol. In Detached as Scout for General Howards Head Quarters.

Dear Sir I thought it possible that my Son was personally known to you.

I know but little of your Personal History. It is enough for me to know that you are a Union Soldier fighting to uphold the Government of our beloved Country. Therefore in great confidence I look to you to Sympathise with the Bereaved Parents & Sisters of the fallen Soldier. We recd a letter from an Officer of his Company informing us that he was killed about the 1st of December at Gordon Ga when in the discharge of his Duty –Shot by a Citizen.

Dear General if you could give me any of the particulars concerning the death of my dear son whether any of his comrades were with him when shot, whether or not he was killed instantly, if he was decently Buried, it might be a comfort to our acheing hearts. Also if you can give me some Testimonial of good conduct on the part of my Boy.

I suppose that you are pressed with the cares & the responsibility of your high Command. We read in History that the great Napoleon in his flight from Russia found time to interest himself in the Private matters of one of his lowest Soldiers.

Dear sir, my son entered the Army at the beginning of the war being then about 19 years of age. I don't know whether he had money or property at the time of his death by him or not. At the commencement of the war I was living at the Wilson Creek Battle Ground J.W. Mo. We left there in the summer of 62 after being robbed & driven by the Rebels and came to this place. My Daughters walking most of the way.

General I bring my letter to a close hoping that it may find you in the enjoyment of health & happiness & from the dept of my heart wishing you great success in the defence of our Government. I hope and believe that this war will soon be over. Yet there is many Tears to be shed, many hearts to be broken and many Graves to be filled. Therefore allow me to Exhort you to be prepared for Death.

Yours in sorrow
Lindsey Matchett

2413 1/13/1865 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2360

Source: Bowdoin

Head-Quarters
Department and Army
of the Tennessee,
Beaufort S.C.

[805]

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,
Beaufort S.C. Jan 13th 1865

Dearest,

I have been running back & forth from Savannah for the past week, as my troops are being transported to this place. Now I have my Head Quarters here and I wish you were here too. I got a good long letter from Rowland yesterday and he told me how nicely you all were. I had the two from the children with your own tiny note.

Mrs General & Mrs Capt. Saxton took me to ride yesterday afternoon as they said to take me from official duties. We went to visit two negro schools in full operation. We found the children quite as far advances as white children of this same age. There were two white teachers one for each school, a Miss Botume of Boston & Miss Danby from Massachusetts. The children sang for me. They all sing out with great zest & enjoyment swinging their bodies to keep time.

The weather, cool but not cold, really delightful. These old trees, green & luxuriant, how very much you would enjoy it here & how delighted you would be to come. This I keep saying, but I am so short a time here, that I cannot ask it.

Mrs Saxton (Gen.) is a lovely lady & wants to see Mrs Howard. Gen Saxton has taken me personally right to his house, give me a room and allows me to enjoy the luxuries of his table. I hav'nt yet given up the hope that things may so turn, that I may run home before spring. I am sometimes very homesick, but generally so much taken up with duties that I dont get burdened with it. I am sitting in Mrs Saxtons reception room and writing at the general's desk. This is that I may be less disturbed by comers & goers.

I have called on Prentiss Whitman and he shewed me his shop & some beautiful mocking birds and a town owl. He wished he had a chance to sent you one. I fear the cold North would stop his singing. As it is these birds dont sing here in winter.

I shall leave here tonight for the front. We are going to lay a bridge at Port Royal Ferry and try to secure some points of the Rail Road near Pocatigo tomorrow or monday.

Give much love to the children. Mother's present is'nt quite done. I wonder if Uncle Charlie succeeded in getting home the pony. Are you really doing hard work? You must'nt wear out, darling, with working, for I really cant spare you, though it does seem as if I never could get home. Are the snows very deep yet?

I miss Charles a great deal. Tell him Col Clark is a full Brigadier, and has got back to us, and wants to stay with me till he is confirmed by the Senate. Col Wilson has come back a full Colonel. Van Deveer is back but dont want to see me, has gone to Savannah to see Gen. Sherman. The Sec. of War says he & the President think "I am the right man in the right place". He spoke warmly & even affectionately to me the few moments I saw him at Savannah.

May God bless you all.
Lovingly Otis

Give my love to Mother and remember me to all the neighbors.

2414 1/13/1865 *From:* James Q Gilmore

To: Maj Genl [OO] Howard

OOH-2361

Boston

Source: Bowdoin

[20]

Boston Jany 13 1865

Maj Genl Howard

Sir,

I wrote you a few days since recommending the papers of a young man who wished to commence business at Savannah. I now have the pleasure of introducing him to you in person and can say that you will find him trustworthy in all respects and ready to fulfill all he promises as a man of honor and loyalty.

Any assistance you may render him in attaining his wishes I shall consider as a personal favor.

Asking your pardon for intruding upon you I remain

Your Obt

James Q Gilmore

2420 1/18/1865 *From:* C.H. Howard

To: My dear brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-2362

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[21, 22]

Leeds Jan. 18 1865

My dear brother

I reached home day before yesterday (Weds). Met Rowland in Portland doing business for Mother & he came here with me. Little Jamie was the first to open the door and welcome me with "Uncle Charley" and a kiss, then came sweet little Grace, then Guy almost ready to shed tears for joy, then little Chancey came toddling along saying "Farley" "Farley". Mother and Lizzie were well. They had expected me the day before on acct. of a notice in the telegrams from Washington in the Boston Journal saying I had been in W. on my way home.

Mr. Webb wrote you while I was with him. I was a good deal hindered by the pony. Had to leave him at Newport & wait for him in Boston. I also left him and "Wash" in Portland. They came in the freight train yesterday all safe & sound. We did not tell Guy what his present was to be. I got a saddle in Boston. Guy went up to the train with me at 2 P.M. but the train not coming on time we returned to get Rowland and Guy remained at home but "Wash" arrived with the pony so all hands could see him before dark. Guy was crazy with delight. He went down almost at once to speak for oats from Uncle Roland <G>.

Mother seems a good deal blue with her cares. I shall try to relieve her in every possible way. It will not do for her to attempt to live on the farm & care for it herself.

Lizzie & I have talked over the farm business –(Mr. Lane's) and concluded that if you were here you would not buy it at present. I do not think you will have difficulty in getting it hereafter if you desire. Mr. Lane asks \$3500 and it would cost you a large sum to fit it up so that Lizzie could live there. Then there is the matter of schools & church –the latter of no small importance while you are absent. The want of society and many many considerations –none of which may have escaped you but which appear to us almost insuperable objections to taking the farm just now in your absence and with your present income.

Mother says that she would be just as well contented anywhere else as upon the old farm or in Leeds –if only with those whom she loves. If you left the farm just as it is for the present and did not attempt to have a home there, still it will be only a source of expense, not by any means paying the interest upon the cost or even (we think) self sustaining.

Our (Mother's) business is in pretty good condition. I go to settle the last debt out of the family today - Mr. Bishops \$800 –about.

We all saw the pony this morning. They pronounce him a very handsome pony. Lizzie says she can ride him. She looks younger & better than I have seen her for for a long time and her character grows more and more Christian & lovely, it seems to me. Jamie is a beautiful boy. Grace is a great scholar for one so young. I brought them all presents from their father –much more pleasing than if from anyone else.

I have not time to write more just now.

My regards to Col. Strong, Maj. Whittlesey, Capts. Gilbreth & Beebe & all the rest of our family & staff. I will go to Augusta next week. Hope you will send me word if you hear from your Washington communications. "Wash" sends his respects to Sam & tell him "I am getting on mighty well."

Yours Affectionately
C.H. Howard

P.S. Do not do too much for Messrs. M-C brothers from SC. Their father is said to be a bad Rebel & I fear duty will not warrant even the saving of their cotton.

P.S. 2. Grace sends kisses & love.

2416 1/14/1865 *From:* B.F Barton

To: Mrs [Lizzie] Howard

OOH-2363

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[586]

Augusta Jan 14, 1865

Mrs Howard

Your little Boy came to our store on Thanksgiving day and said he wished to leave some money to pay a small bill at Mr Brooks' Store as Mr Brooks was closed on the day, and you were to leave town on that or the following day. The little fellow had a bill of the goods to which he said should be added a pair of Scates and left the money accordingly. When I called to pay Mr Brooks he informed me that the Boy paid for all but the Scates. So I enclose to you the balance. Should have sent it before but did not learn your address until today.

Yours Truly
B.F Barton

2417 1/14/1865

From: Geo. F. Marble

To: Maj Genl OO Howard

OOH-2364

Washington DC 368
Penn Avenue

Com'dg A & D of Tenn.

Source: Bowdoin

[25]

Washington DC Jan 14th 1865
368 Penn Avenue

Maj Genl OO Howard
Com'dg A & D of Tenn.
Dear Genl.

Very unfortunately I was among the number blockaded at Chattanooga while the Rebel Army lay before Nashville, consequently did not get away until the first of the present month since which time I have been using every possible exertion to meet you Command with Supplies of which I have on hand a large amount consisting of Officers wear Sutlers Supplies &c (everything being strictly Military Goods). I arrived here yesterday and immediately presented my papers to the War Department, Asst. Sec. Dana says the Department will only Act upon things by an order from Genl Sherman allowing me the privilege of coming to his army and whenever I can present such authority the Department will give me the privilege of Shipping.

Will you be so kind as to send me the necessary documents specifying the money value of goods I may be allowed to bring through. Our Stock stored at Nashville will probably amount to (\$75.000) Seventy five thousand dollars which is in readiness to ship at any moment whenever we are allowed to do so. I would also like to know whether I can ship them by Government transportation from New York.

If it is my good fortune to get to your department nothing shall be as I think no one will have reason to complain of Trade at Nashville has been very light at Chattanooga there has been little or none.

Accept my heartfelt thanks for the very kind interest you have taken in my behalf –be kind enough to present my best regards to those of your Staff of my acquaintance and with a sincere wish that I may meet with you soon and assurance of the gladness every one fills for the grand success of your Campaign through Georgia.

I am Genl
Your Very
Obt Servant
Geo. F. Marble

2421 1/20/1865 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2365

Source: Bowdoin

Head-Quarters
Department and Army
of the Tennessee,
Beaufort S.C.

[608]

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,
Beaufort S.C. Jan 20 1865

Dearest,

I propose to send Capt. Beebe to Maine, to concert with Charles & if possible raise a regiment for us there. He is Jeannie's cousin and a higher loved nobler young man is not to be found. I commend him to you especially. You must get acquainted with him.

I am still here, am going to Hilton Head for today and then back –probably shall start for a further forward movement on Monday next. Gen & Mrs Saxton have taken me into the family & fed me with great kindness and if I did not feel so homesick, the change would make me quite contented. The next time we strike the camp I mean to go home at any cost. Wilmington is said to be ours, though at considerable cost. This will help us a great deal.

(Steamer Enoch Dean enroute to Hilton Head)

About the purchase of the farm I am not particular. I can invest more profitably elsewhere, but if Mother would like the place for a home, and you for a place occasionally to return to I am willing to buy. All the peculiarities of the people I remember, and it must always be our stripe wherever we are, to lead & not to follow. An enlarged mind & a pure heart will always rise above all petty and trivial affairs. When the main business is to make money it is very difficult to free social intercourse from the dollars & cts. Uncle Ensign has always towered above such things, and a good many of the Leeds people have lived very good & useful lives.

I understand you, darling, that it is not yourself you care for, but Guy, Grace, Jamie & Chancy. All sort of experience is necessary for them. Yet they cannot be too carefully guarded against anything that is small-minded. I feel that nothing need be done ever with a view to my public interest, for God has his own Work for me to accomplish and I feel persuaded that he will guide me step by step. He has indeed honored me above measure.

I am writing Charles by the hand of Sladen at the same table. There is a little of the sea-smell that has sometimes made you so sick. If anything should happen to prevent my meeting you, I must have you come to me next time. Had I known it, Beaufort would have been a charming place and we could have been very happy there, but you would have been very pale & trembling had I left as I did at 10 o'clock at night for Pocotaligo.

Captain Beede copied the most of my report with his own hand for Mother. I want to send you a map that she may read it with more interest.

We are getting troops of negroes free, and they are being organized & and colonized under Gen Saxton's supervision. Yesterday I visited five Colored Schools, where I found the children sparkling with intelligence the teachers noble women who have devoted their strength to this work. The school bears the look of our best New England village schools the order, the reading, the enthusiastic & the singing strike you with wonder. The "American" & "Rally around the flag boys" rings out with such heart & harmony as to imbue you with enthusiasm, and you cant help saying that is not the stuff to make slaves of.

On St. Helena's Island, Miss More & the Misses Muncy who are wealthy ladies, have devoted themselves & their income to this work. They have a school house formed with three rooms opening together thus: [sketch of 3 rooms in a line with the middle room larger than the outer two]. When they sing the doors are open and the children in the wings face inwards. The small children are in the body of the house. They sing on the right, then on the left, than all together, and such singing, little ones about two feet high sing away in perfect time and with great zest & joy.

The school house is opposite the church. By this church is a grave-yard, filled with tomb stones. The name of Tripp is very common. I am constantly reminded of Mrs Lee by the name & by the dialect of the negroes, which is the very facsimile of her peculiar language. Capt Ruel says he thinks C.C. Lee was killed somewhere [Charles C Lee, USMA, 1856, died 30 Jul 1862, Battle of Glendale, VA].

The boat is rather unsteady in crossing the bay and you need not mind a pulsed looking hand. I have just got your letter written before you had heard from us directly. I should have sent you a dispatch but I wrote that one from the Savannah Canal in such a way that I thought you would know all was right and I ordered Capt Duncan to swallow the paper containing the message if he were caught by the rebels and I didn't wish to give him too much paper.

Give much love to Guy, Grace, Jamie & Chancy. I hope the Pony has made his debut before this and been acceptable. Prentiss is well, but don't come to see me often. He fixed my watch. Don't let Charles forget my coat. I shall be glad to see Stinson. I wish he had come to Beaufort while we were there. He thinks he is much better. Guy cant ride much in winter, without freezing his toes & ears, to say nothing of his fingers. Warm days can undoubtedly be used. When I get home I shall borrow the pony for my little daughter, so she must have her riding dress all ready and I will try to find a side-saddle.

We are are now almost at our destination. Give love to Mother, Chas, Dellie, and remember me kindly to Oscar, Melvin & families. How does my friend "Bell" get on, any little bells &c. Our boat <reves> & pitches uncomfortably but we will soon be along side the wharf. May God bless you and keep you & direct you in all your ways, is your husbands constant wish. You were never devoted more than now & he will be happy & thankful to join you.

Lovingly
Otis

2422 1/21/1865

From: Wm O. Stroud

To: Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2366

Source: Bowdoin

Head-Quarters
Department and Army
of the Tennessee,
Beaufort S.C.

Com'dg Army of Tenn.

[27]

Head-Quarters Department and Army
of the Tennessee,
Beaufort S.C. 1865 January 21st

Maj. Genl. O.O. Howard
Com'dg Army of Tenn.

General,

I have the honor to state that the means of transportation of this Army is as follows, Viz.

15th A.C. 790 Army Wagons
17th A.C. 460 " "
Hd Qurs. Of the Army 26
Signal Corps 8
1st Mo Engineer Regiment 24
In 15th Corps 23 -2 horse Wagons
In 17th Corps 1.
In Engineer regiment 1

Total 1308 Army Wagons and 25-2 horse wagons

The above included everything, Hd Qurs supply and ammunition trains.

We carry 200 rounds of Infantry ammunition per soldier and 350 rounds of artillery ammunition per gun.

We propose to carry 30 days rations of sugar, coffee, salt, and from 15 to 20 days bread stuffs.

We have no corps supply trains. Ordnance and supply trains are distributed equally among the Divisions.

Respectfully
Wm O. Stroud
Lt. Col.

2423 1/22/1865 *From:* Guy [Howard]

To: Dear Papa [OO Howard]

OOH-2367

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[65]

Leeds Jan 22 1865

Dear Papa

I began a letter to you last Sunday and did not finish it now will copy that first then write more. I thank the Officers very much indeed for my Pony. I could not have received a better or a nicer present. It is just what I have been wanting so long. Wash is a very nice man and takes good care of my pony. I do not know what to name the Pony. I have been on him three times; once I went as far as Capt. Turners. I don't go alone Wash leads him. The Pony likes to play and stand up on her hind feet and put out her fore feet towards Wash. Grace and I are teaching Wash to read. I hope he will stay with us a long time. I am glad you got all my letters before you left Savannah. Mother thinks you may not get these letters for some time. Jammie says he must have a letter from papa soon. No one went to church last Sunday the roads were not broken out. We had a very plesent time at home Uncle Charly was here; he is coming home from Farmington to-morrow in the train. Today is very pleasant. Grand-mother and the girl and the hired man went to church. It is now half past four. Capt Turner has just come in. Chancy and Jamie are sitting in his lap. Wash would like you to give his respects to Sam and tell him that he is well. Please give my love to Dr. Duncan. I just read your letter aloud to Mother. Are you going to bring that nice horse home that was given you on the March? This letter will go tomorrow with Mother's. Good night, with much love from

Your son

Guy

2425 1/23/1865 *From:* John W McClure

To: Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard

OOH-2369

Source: Bowdoin

General Sherman's
Army
99th Regt. 2nd Div 13th
Army Corps

[234]

The U.S. Christian Commission,
General Sherman's Army
99th Regt. 2nd Div 13th Army Corps
January 23d 1865

Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard,
Dear Sir,

Several times have I attempted to write this letter, and my heart has as of ten times failed, not knowing in what light it may be considered. But I have concluded to write –let the events be as they may. If they meet your approbation the desired affect is produced, and if not I do hope you will hard on and excuse the author and oblige.

I have presumed to Solicit your kind condescension to grant me permission to visit my home, in LaFayette Indiana, for this reason. My mother, oldest and youngest Brothers have died since I left home. My oldest brother whose age was 19 years, was the mainstay of the family, during my absence. This leaves my father, young brother and two Sisters to the cold waves of adversity. My father is poor, unable to work and is near Sixty year old.

If I could be there a few days, I could make arrangements, which would keep them from feeling the Stings of want, until the expiration of my term of enlistment.

Hoping you may consider my circumstances, I remain your

obedient Servt,
John W McClure
Sergt Co "F" 99th Ind Vols Inftry

2426 1/23/1865 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: My dear Brother [CH Howard]

OOH-2370a

Source: Bowdoin

Head-Quarters Dep't
and Army of the
Tennessee,
Beaufort S.C.

[587]

Head-Quarters Dep't and Army of the Tennessee,
Beaufort S.C. January 23d 1865

My dear Brother,

I have agreed to Beebe concerting with you and trying to raise a regiment - with a view to getting it at my Hd. Qrs. As Provost Guard. The latter, however, had better not be too sanguinely nor too publicly promised for I might fail of it. I think the governor will see that it is for your interest & for the public interest to comply with my request. I have no Maine men in my command & I would very much like to have a good regiment. You will want hearty men and as many veterans as possible. I don't know but I am putting a hard task on you. If so you must not accept my proposition. I have written you recently & quite fully, and also a letter to Lizzie. Lizzie, Mother & the children will be glad to see & know Capt. Beebe. Give much love to all. I send Mother's present, How goes the Pony & Guy. My love to Rowland & Ella & Dady.

Your Aff Bro.

Otis

[A letter from Charles to Lizzie written on Feb 5, 1865 followed this on the spare sheets.]

2441 2/5/1865

From: C.H. Howard

To: Dear Sister Lizzie
[Howard]

OOH-2370b

Augusta

Source: Bowdoin

[587]

[The following letter from Charles to Lizzie was written on the spare sheets of one from Otis to Charles written on Jan 23, 1865.]

Augusta Feb. 5 1865
Sunday Evening

Dear Sister Lizzie

For fear I may not be able to see you & dear Mother before leaving I will write. I have been waiting every day this week & expecting a telegram from Sec'y of War in answer to Gov. Cony about the Regiment referred to in this letter of Otis to me. I should have come to Leeds but for this hourly expectation or should certainly have written. I hope to hear tomorrow. I do not care much to raise the Regiment as I thought the Governor not very eager for it & I like the position of Inspector better. However as Capt Beebe came on & he was to be Lieut. Colonel, I thought I would try it if the Sec'y of War thought favorable.

I have stayed here with Mrs. Stinson all the week & spending one night at Hallowell. All well. Mrs Stinson & "Aunt Caddie" have been very kind. They send their love to you & have wished audibly many times that you had come down with me. I enjoyed much hearing Dr. Shepard of Bangor today. Have seen Mr. Foster of Bangor but his daughter is still in Boston. I think of going right on, (if I hear tomorrow), seeing Dellie one night at Albany & taking the Steamer from N.Y. next Friday but I may not get off, so soon. If it were not for taking that Steamer I would come to Leeds again. Mr. Berry went off before I anticipated or I should have sent mother's present from Otis which Capt Beebe brought. If I go I will leave it here (Otis' Reports & map) to be called for. The forage will take no harm here until called for even though not till your return.

I saw Mrs. Stinchfield today. She & her daughter Eunice inquired about you & your family. Love to all & to Mother.

Your Affectionate brother
C.H. Howard

P.S. Please preserve this letter of Otis', and be sure and send Dellie's last letter (which I left on the clock I think) to me, care Rev. E.B. Webb Boston, getting it into Tuesday's mail without fail as I need it to find Dellie.
C.H.H.

2427 1/23/1865

From: John H Pilsbury

To: Maj Genl. O.O. Howard

OOH-2371

Treasury Department,
Fourth Special Agency
Beaufort, S.C.

Comdg. Army of the Tenn.

Source: Bowdoin

[51]

Treasury Department,
Fourth Special Agency

Beaufort, S.C.
January 23, 1865

Maj Genl. O.O. Howard
Comdg. Army of the Tenn.

General:

I have seen Genl. Clark and he will remain. General Rany an have one nice large room (the parlor on the first-floor) and two chambers. And if we can accommodate them in any way about our mess will gladly do so. I desire to accommodate in every way possible & I have no doubt that this arrangement will suit all concerned.

Will you be so kind as to inform Genl. Rany about this. I regret exceedingly that you personally should have been at all annoyed and beg to remain.

Faithfully Yours
John H Pilsbury
Asst. Spec. Agent

2428 1/23/1865 *From:* W. Harrow

To: Maj Genl OO Howard

OOH-2372

Savannah, Ga.

Source: Bowdoin

[28, 29]

Savannah, Ga. Jany 23, 65

Maj Genl OO Howard
Dr Sr,

Upon arriving at Hilton Head I met Maj Gen Osterhaus, and learning from him that Maj Gen Logan was at this place I came immediately here, & reported to Gen Logan. He at once directed me to report to Gen Sherman, doing so, he directed me to report to yourself. Before getting off, I met Genl Clark, who informed me that a report to him & am awaiting orders here, was all that was required or expected, & hence my not seeing you in person, at Beaufort.

I have written so much, that you shall not feel that there was any discourtesy on my part, in not seeing you and "dwelling over matters" in the language of Genl Sherman.

Your order to report to Genl L. was what I expected & so informed Gen Clarke.

Gen S. orders me to report to Adj Gen. at Washington, and gives me a private letter to Secy War, saying I was not relieved from any want of confidence in myself. I believe you feel the same way, & am I full certain, that yr order did not proceed from any other reason, that yr unwillingness to offer me a command, which I could not <take>.

I shall, <put up> without doubt go out of service, on my arrival at Washington, but should feel grateful to have some expression from yrself. I hope combined success may attend yr noble army & that you personally may meet the high expectations of the country.

Respty yr obt Servt
W. Harrow
Brig Gen Vols

2429 1/25/1865 *From:* C.B. King

To: Major Gen. [OO] Howard

OOH-2373

Savannah

Comdg Army of Tennessee
Beaufort S.C.

Source: Bowdoin

[30]

Savannah Jan 25 1865

Major Gen. Howard

My dear Sir,

I regretted after learning of your departure from our city, that I had not obtained from you some letter of introduction to the future Military Governor of Savannah. Supposing that on going back into the Union, Savannah would receive, according to the promises made us, the benefits of our original Government did not anticipate the trouble & distress we now experience. We are refused simple passes to go two or three miles into the country to my farm for wood &c. The colored people living there are in great distress not being allowed to come in & go out with food. I cannot send out for wood, & can get none from the public yard. Under these circumstances you can readily imagine what must be our condition.

For years past, my farm has been the chief means of supporting my large family & I hardly think it can be the intention of the Government of the Union to deprive me, without a cause, of this means of living, & thus reduces us to want & beggary.

Knowing you personally, General, I write entreating your influence & in <trafsion> with Gen Sherman, the Commander in Chief, 1st. That he would grant me the right to continue with my farm as usual, heretofore, under his protection. 2nd That he will grant me a pass to & from the city to it, & to my church during the summer. 3rd And also give two passes for my hired colored servants to pass to & from the city & their home at my farm two miles South of Savannah.

In asking these privileges I can imagine no possible soil or harm to the military authorities; while it would be of immeasurable benefit to a large & helpless family & to a number of poor colored people in making an honest livelihood.

You know me, General, well enough to be assured that both my honor & my principles as a christian gentleman, would not allow me to make the least improper use of any privileges granted me as a citizen & minister of the gospel. I presume, from his former kindness, that friend, Major Whittlesey of your staff, will act for you in this matter procuring as speedily as possible for our relief, the above mentioned permits & protection from Gen Sherman.

With kindest regards to the Major, & to yourself personally, in which my family joins me. I remain, dear Sir

Your sincere friend & Obedient Servt
C.B. King

[Written sideways on the back side.]

Major Gen Howard
Comdg Army of Tennessee
Beaufort S.C.

Asks General Howard to secure passes for himself an negroes in and out of Savannah.

2430 1/26/1865 *From:* Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: My dear Brother [OO
Howard]

OOH-2374

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

[31]

Leeds Jan 26, 1865

My dear Brother

I believe I hav'nt written you since Charles came home. You don't know happy it has made us all & what a comfort it was to Mother. I came down yesterday AM to marry Cyrus Lane to L.L. Lathrop's daughter this morning. Ella & Dadie came down with Charles Monday & will return with me. Your family are all well. Guy having a troublesome cold. Charles is setting up the business & we will see a man today about buying the farm. Ella enjoys Chas visit with additional relish because he talks over all his love matters with her.

Charles and I will go over to "the City" today & see Rosa Dean –Dels girl –about whom he seems terribly in earnest. Everybody likes Charles man Wash –he is faithful & unoffensive. Mother has a pretty good girl & Wash keeps the fires going & it seems more comfortable here than usual in cold weather. David is very fond of his cousins. I send a picture of Jamie which I brought from Farmington yesterday. We hear of you at Pocotoligo & another report locates you in the rear of Wilmington!

We will see Uncle Ensign & Laura today. The snow drifts are as deep as ever you saw them. The Pony stands the climate very well & Guy is the envy of all boys. The old mare never looked so well as now & "Wash" will keep her so. Charles had a very good Audience in our M.H. at Farmington Sabbath Evening and we took a collection for the Freedmen & C. Commission.

All the children (8 o'clock) are up & chatting away like black birds, but Charles must have the ink, so goody bye with Gods blessing.

Yr aff. Brother
Rowland

2431 1/27/1865 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2375

Source: Bowdoin

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

[58]

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,
Near Pocotaligo Jan 27 1865

Dearest,

Night before last & last night I stopped at an old house near the Pocotaligo river, but tonight our field head quarters have come up and my staff & myself are again in the field under flies. The water froze last night and it has been freezing cold all day today. Nothing like 14° below zero, but every body feels as cold on account of the sudden change. I have thought much about you and home of late and long very much to see my way clear to get there.

Next Monday we shall probably swing off again and trust to a kind Providence. We do so many things that are wrong in this living off the country in the way we do, that I do not like it, and I am afraid of retribution. I am particularly made to feel this when we reach a loyal place like Beaufort. It is almost impossible to keep the soldiers from siezing every horse & mule and appropriating sundry other things that don't belong to them. I hope indeed some wonderful thing will soon happen, so as to let us return to peace & propriety.

I was treated very kindly at Beaufort at Gen Saxton's & was made to enjoy everything I could away from you & the children for which I feel very grateful.

I have sent Beebe to join Charles. I am only afraid Chas. May give him the slip, having gotten away before his telegraph reaches him. It is a good deal to think of a regiment of a thousand men to leave their homes and go into the field & so few of them ever to return, but I offer to get for them the pleasantest and safest possible place & am a little afraid I might not effect it. I am now getting ahead far enough to be envied & to be lied about to some extent, and may therefore not accomplish all I wish.

Who will get up the wood and take care of the Pony. I suspect Jamie will be perfectly delighted with Guy's pony. Isnt Guy a little bit afraid his Mamma may have to sell the pony? I want to know all about him & his reception.

This is a very peculiar country here. A great many swamps and very little hard ground therefor. There are knolls on which the live oaks are grown of immense size, and then there were houses but now chimneys mostly. There are large rice fields. They are redeemed from marshy swamps when the tide comes in by deep & long ditches. I am in hopes before long we will get out of the swamps. These broad oaks with the moss hanging in somber draping from every limb would strike you singularly. It makes you feel sad to go through a long avenue of these trees & moss – so much like a cemetery style. The shade trees are always green and the moss always grey & dark.

Give much love to Mother. I hope she is very well and happy. Give kisses to all the children. <Mine> are many for thee darling.

Yr loving husband
Otis

[A typed version was found, ooh_2376, in addition to the hand written version. There are a few differences.]

2432 1/29/1865

From: M. M. Marsh
Medical Inspector
for Comm.

To: Maj. Genl. [OO] Howard

OOH-2377

Source: Bowdoin

U.S. Sanitary
Commission,
Department of the
South,
Beaufort

[33, 34]

U.S. Sanitary Commission,
Department of the South,
Beaufort Jan 29 1865

Maj. Genl. Howard
Sir

The inclosed received, a ½ hour since, I forward you, as it explains itself. Dr. Agnew is a prominent member of the Standing Committee of the U.S. Sanitary Commission Board. The object is, to show the public that the contributions made by the public are appreciated: thus hoping to continue the liberality of the North alive to the interests of the Soldier until that soldier reduces the revolted territory to obedience to law. Any testimony that yourself & others may give, will be appreciated; & can be addressed to me at Beaufort S.C.

On the 12 Inst. I forwarded to N.Y. a Steamer exclusively for vegetables, for your Army, which I fear may be a day or two too late to be enjoyed. I will keep them as long as vegetables will keep in the latitude after shipment, 10 to 13 days, subject to your order: and if it is possible to inform me when to send, & where to deliver, I will have a Steamer's Cargo of supplies at your disposal, as frequently as every 3d week while the Army may be within striking distance of the coast.

Most respectfully
M. M. Marsh
Medical Inspector for Comm.

[Written on the back page of the letter.]

Beaufort Jan 29, 1865

Marsh, M M

Insp. Surg. For U.S.C.C. [This should have been U.S.S.C]

Hd. Qrs. Army of the Tenn.
Med. Dir. Office
Near McPhersonville S.C.
Jan'y 31st / 65

The troops of this command have been freely supplied with many articles by the U.S. Sanitary Com'mn both at Atlanta and at Pocatigo, wh. Have administered much to their comfort.

D.L. Huntington
Asst. Surg. USA
Act. Med. Dir.
A.T.

2424 1/22/1865 *From:* C.R. Agnew

To: Dr M M Marsh

OOH-2368

394 5th Ave
New York

Source: Bowdoin

[35]

394 5th Ave
New York
Jan 22nd 1865

My dear Doctor:

I'm very anxious to see at an early day some formal acknowledgment by Genl. Howard & others of the value of the corps of the Uncas –the first corps. Your letter read at the meeting of the Exec. Com'tee on last Friday Ev'g., giving an account of the benefit conferred makes me anxious to obtain the above vouchers for record and public use.

When we distributed the anti-scorbutics in the Army of the Potomac last Summer we pursued the following plan. We made up a lot of stores e.g. for the 15th Corps consigned them to the Corps Commander sent an agent along bearing a note from our Inspector at City Point & thus elicited a written reply. These replies from Genls Burnside, Smith, Ricketts etc. etc. have been of first value.

Now I would ask you as far as possible to do the same. Your work has spoken for itself, but the time may come when formal acknowledgments of the value of special <times> of work in great emergencies may be of great use to us with our friends or against our enemies. Dr Jenkins has been instructed to send to you some printed blank requisitions, to be filled by Surgeons & others drawing stores from us. The use of these blanks will enable us, having them on record, to turn at once to a history of our issues.

In the Army of the Potomac nothing is issued except upon such blanks, unless in cases of great emergency, & then only as "Special Relief".

Recently the Surgeon General of Massachusetts said that Regiments from his State had not received much, if any relief. By turning to the files of requisitions in the Washington office we will be able to show that scores of Regiments from his State, have received immense amounts of supplies & receipted for them by responsible officers. I would suggest that these vouchers when received be recorded upon a book & monthly sent to New York or Washington as D. Jenkins may suggest. This action is not intended to increase your labors or to imply any criticism upon your past methods, the Board fully sympathizes with you as regards the onerous characters of the your labors and for the highest appreciation both of your methods and labors.

I am sorry to hear you complaining again of your health. I hope nothing unfavorable is recurring in that direction. Please present my best respects to Mrs Marsh & believe me ever yr sincere friend.

C.R. Agnew

Dr M M Marsh

2433 1/29/1865 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dearest [Lizzie Howard]

OOH-2378

Source: Bowdoin

Head-Quarters
Department and Army
of the Tennessee,
Pocotaligo

[584]

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,
Pocotaligo Jan 29th 1865

Dearest,

Tomorrow we break loose again from our base and launch forth on an uncertain campaign, but the same God is my trust and I hardly feel a misgiving yet anything is possible. I did wish to see your lovely face and enjoy the children for a short time at least but it did not come about. I am made happy by the thought that you do not give way to anxieties but that you are cheerful & happy & render the children so that is the atmosphere for them to grow up in. Give much love to all.

I am writing out of doors and at night. The weather has moderated and though I can see my breath, it is not very cold. This time nobody has any tents, only flies. I enclose you two hundred dollars & hope it may reach you in safety.

I am glad Charles has decided not to let me buy the farm at present. For I perceive that the school & church privileges are not such as I should choose and as for contrary reasons, they are of no particular account. Doubtless a kind Providence has some house in store for us elsewhere.

Tell Chas. Clark has been assigned to troops. Capt. Taggart left behind at Beaufort with the office. Woodhul made the Adj. Gen. of 15th Corps, a new man Capt. Van Dyke acting A.A.G. for me. Col Garker at Gen Sherman's for the field, Gen. Osterhaus gone on leave –the promotion he will see in the paper & have from Beebe. Bedford is to be mustered out & I have quite a small establishment but everything is working well! All but Corse's Div'n succeeded in getting over to Beaufort by Stmr. He will follow the left wing. Gen. Sherman is not far off, in good spirits and confident. We have spent today quietly at Hd. Qrs. But have had no services.

Give much to him to Mother and the rest. Mrs. Whittlesey has had a little daughter born on the 11th inst and he got the news yesterday or day before –everything a little before expectation but doing remarkably well. My love to Dellie. We have very beautiful campfires, but the back & shoulders get a little cold while Maj W. says about his face a "leettle too warm". I expect Chas would like to look in upon us. He can describe it all to you, this row of flies, of fires, of chairs, the big live oaks, with their drapery hovering around –only our flies are all new. Everything else is natural as life. You would not mind a peep but it is not for ladies to enter such sanctums. It would be better for me to peep into the beautiful house life –where is our Guy & Jamie and Gracie & Chancy. God keep you all.

Lovingly your husband
Otis

2435 1/30/1865

From: John Peck

To: Maj Gen O. O. Howard

OOH-2379

Source: Bowdoin

Department of the East,
Headquarters Maj.
Gen. Peck,
No. 37 Bleecker Street
New York

Dept & Army of the
Tennessee
in the field

[36]

Department of the East,
Headquarters Maj. Gen. Peck,
No. 37 Bleecker Street
New York, Jany 30 1865

My dear General,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of Dec 31st 1864 in reply to mine of the 22d Decr, on the spring campaign of 1863. You will please accept my warm thanks for your prompt, and manly response.

Referring to a previous note, you say "the truth of the matter was, that I was somewhat in doubt as to origin of your strong vindication of the interest of your command." When I gave my letter of Sept 25th, 64 to the press, Genl Hooker was at the Astor House, and I seized the occasion to draw his reply, which has not yet been made. At that time I had not seen or conversed with or heard from an officer of his army. My letter was based upon principles of the military art, and upon evidence in my own possession. It was bold in view of the silence and mystery with which the campaign was invested immediately after Chancellorsville. In view of that I knew it was not so bold. At the proper time I had determined to clear up all the mystery, and present the facts to the world without disturbing the operations of the Government.

The same mail brought a second letter from Maj Genl Slocum, official and for publication. It covers all I claim and more. Maj Gen Warren has responded in very strong terms. Maj Gen Hancock referred me to Genl Wm Hayes U.S.A. who was taken on the 3d and passed through Lees Army. Hayes letter is long, clear & decisive. Not a man of Longstreets army joined Lee until some time after the 10th May. His rear-guard left the vicinity of Suffolk on the 11th for Richmond.

In a few days I will send you some additional memoranda, for your information. You will be surprised at the amount and influence of the same.

I am yours
Very truly
John Peck

Maj Gen O. O. Howard
Dept & Army of the Tennessee
in the field