Leeds. April, 15th 1865.

Dearest

What a sad day has come upon our dear Country and how many sorrowing hearts there are to-night all over our stricken land caused by the sudden death of our beloved President. Who can fill his place! And now Sec Seward is reported gone; the two together seem an irreparable loss. God has permitted this great calamity is all we can say. He can lift the dark cloud and show us its silver lining. Oh! that he may do so. I feel as if I wanted to go to you to be with you. I ought not to have but I cannot help having increased anxiety for you. You are I know in the hands of God and striving to do his will. May he in mercy guard you and all others in positions of trust and responsibility at this time. Pres Johnson seems like a stranger, and he cannot at once take the place, if ever, of Pres. Lincoln

like to tell you. But it is too late to-night. I send your letters to Ft Monroe now but I do not see the object of having all letters for Thomas may leave for you. Nothing to open communication via Danville maybe. I hope everything will move on as usual and for the best good of the Country. I brought your shoes and most for bugaboo for Mother. Mother is very much pleased with them. I think it a great and invaluable present. When you come home that will be the best present of all

With best love, your own

Lizzie

C.

in the hearts of the people. I will not dwell on this longer but it comes very near to my heart, dearest, when I think of you as a general officer in the southern states and now advancing to meet the army of this barbarous enemy. You are very precious to us as you well know. It is too bad I could not have seen you of late. I do not get over the feeling of regret at all. You said you would not have telegraphs me again to come to you. But I think you were not really in earnest. at least. I do not like to think so. I firmly believe if you should again send, I should leave everything whatever the circumstances, and start.

Sunday Morn. I will decide what time I come to you. Mother has gone with Mark to attend the funeral of a very old lady near the Centre I have forgotten the name. Chauncy has just gone to sleep. Guy is reading "the Drummer Boy a the life of Gen Grant." Jamie feels the restraint of Sunday a little, and asks "if little boys can't have on their things and only go out in the wood house sundays". Since then I have been reading little Sunday stories and he became quite interested and asked many questions. Wants to go back to "gusta and go to Mr. Hazies church. Grace is still in Farmington. I shall go there Sun for a day or two. The Spring term of Guy's school begins two weeks from to-morrow and if he goes at all he ought to go the first day. Now that it is decided that I am not to go to you. I must think about getting back to Augusta. I shall be very sorry to leave Mother here alone. Maybe I shall not keep house next this summer but go back and forth many times. I will do what I and all the rest think is for the best. I hear about Julia when at Augusta. She is doing very well. I should be glad to hear of your coming home any day you could be spared by Gen Sherman. Dellie will be here by the first of June. I am now writing in the evening and it is nearly ten o'clock so I will not write much longer. Capt. Gilbert leaves Augusta to-morrow morning for Goldsboro on the "front". I wonder where he will find you. I don't think I have any thing more for you. I ought to tell you but most I would

Ordnance Office,

War Department.

Washington April 16th 1865

77

My dear General,

Upon my return to this city a few days since I found your letter of the 29th ult.

I wish to have Captain Buell relieved from duty with your army as soon as it can be done without detriment to the public service, and will take steps to have him replaced by another officer of my dept. very soon.

If you can dispense with his services before an Ordnance officer can be sent to relieve him, I shall be glad to have him ordered to report in person to me

Captain Mordecai is senior Ordnance officer with Genl Thomas, and I regret that I cannot send him to you

I hope however to send an officer who will be entirely acceptable to you professionally and personally.

Respectfully
Wm Ross Lewis
Capt Ord
Maj Genl
Chief of ordnance

Major Genl O. O. Howard
Comdg. 2d
via Newbern
N C

Albany W.T. April 17. 1865.

My dear brother:

I have commenced this letter to you with some misgivings, for I am going to ask of you a favor which I never had occasion to ask before. viz. a loan of Money. An officer in the field is usually among the last to have much money about him, but I hope that when this reaches you, you will be particularly well supplied. Mother has lent me all the money she has and is now actually borrowing money of Lizzie until she can get her pay for the Ship timber sent to Bath. I am now in debt here over $30 and as I am out of funds, I am a burden to my friends. I can offer you no security except an Aud. R.R. Bond. The chances for my success alone constitute the security. If I live and succeed the amount will be refunded with interest. If I should

not live your chance for compensation would be poor. I will give my note on demand or on time and send it either to you or Lizzie. I would be glad of $120. but if I had $100. I could make it serve me well. I have put myself in debt to mother $200 already and she needs all for all the money she can need get.

You will pardon me, my brother, for making this request and if that you have not the money by you, you will not hesitate to say so. I feel a reluctance to borrow this of a stranger.

The awful news of the murder of the President has created a profound gloom all over the land. Such a shock was never before felt. — We, however, feel that having trusted, so far, to an arm of flesh, we must now rely upon the strong arm of God who will never desert the cause of right.

In great haste

Your affectionate Brother

R. A. Lillmore

Give much love to all around you. It wont be many days before I will be amongst you. I hope your health is good and you are enjoying the society of Liggie and the children very much. I was disappointed in not seeing her, but now see that it was all for the best. I have not heard from Charles since he left for Beaufort. The more I can hear about yourself Liggie, the children, Pink, the pony that is, about home people and home matters, the less trying is the seperation. God bless you all. Affectionately

Yr. Son — W. T. Sherman

Raleigh N.C. April 17th 1865.

My dear mother.

You have probably seen by the papers before this time that we are in Raleigh. I would give you a little description of our campaign and dwell upon our bright prospects of peace, were it not that my whole mind and heart keeps returning to the terrible news that has just reached us. I cannot realize it; yet it comes so straight I cannot doubt it. President Lincoln has been everything to the

nation, and the nation will never cease to do him honor. But to me personally he has been a friend; though dealing with thousands, he never forgot me after our first interview. When at Savannah, the Secretary of War took my hand in both his and assured me in the kindest manner of the President's sincere regard and appreciation of my services. I anticipated a real pleasure in serving under his administration after the war was over cherishing the same complete confidence in Mr Lincoln that I would in my own father and knowing that he would sustain me in every right course. The prospect of peace and home had filled all hearts with enthusiasm and everybody was generous; but the revulsion will be sudden and overwhelming. I am afraid of the spirit it may awaken when it is known that men have been set on foot to murder those so much beloved and trusted as Lincoln, Seward, Grant, Sherman and others. I can only say of these blind fools "God forgive them for they know not what they do."

Perhaps it is a field of peculiar contingency where a steady hand might have a good effect. The change from a system of slavery to freedom needs very judicious measures particularly in that department. I am glad now you did not start for New Berne or I could have seen you but a very few days as the prospect of a longer visit is so near. My Wilkes is quite ill and I can't spare with him a hard time - a sort of dysentery. Give a dozen dozen of love to all the children and a heart full to yourself. May God keep you.

Yours

Otis

Head-Quarters Department and Army of the Tennessee,

Raleigh N.C. Apr. 18th 1865.

Dearest

I dictated a letter to Mother yesterday, as I wrote so much from that way. Harry Thurston acting as amanuensis. but I don't think one could write to his wife by dictation under some terrible anxiety should impel him. Yesterday the ~~dreadful~~ ~~necessity~~ news came to us of the death of our beloved President. He has sealed his great work with his life. The grief is almost universal and completely depressing amongst the officers. I hav

seen more than one general officer shed tears in speaking of the Director. But he has gone to his reward. Would that he might have lived to enjoy in this life the fruits of his faithful labor. Gen. Sherman and Johnston met yesterday between the lines to arrange terms of settlement. They did not quite agree and I am afraid ~~that~~ Johnston cannot sufficiently control his subordinates to effect the terms most likely to lead to peace, but I believe his disposition is good and that he will do the best he can. It seems, looking almost too much that the end is so near and the prospect so clear of getting through with our hard task, but it is time. Yet otherwise our rather allows the Madness to temper our rejoicing. I do hope Mr Seward may live to see the end and to help us in our foreign relations, for we have not an abler or better diplomatist. I think now we shall be most likely to march to Richmond if Johnston capitulates and it will probably be two months before I can get home. Schuyler says I have been appointed for to command the Department of the South. I hardly know whether I would ~~wanted~~ it or not

Camp 128th U.S.C. Infy
Beaufort S. C.
April 22 1865

P.S. Belle has recovered. We were relieving here from duty on the Neff — we were disappointed that no compliment was made to them in that order — perhaps so did not enter it. C.H.W.

My dear Brother

Well settled with my new Regiment I know you will be interested to hear how I find matters. No steamer was going South from Ft Monroe — so I had to proceed via Baltimore to New York. I attended Church part of Sunday in Baltimore and at night took the Cars arriving in N. Y. about 6 a. m. Went immediately to the Ex. Mr. who told me no steamer would go to Port Royal or Charleston before the following Saturday. I was greatly disappointed and decided to go home to Maine meanwhile.

But hearing of an Excursion steamer ("Oceanus") going to Charleston I hastened to the dock. Found it was a private party — chiefly from Brooklyn — that all the tickets had been engaged long before hand. It was now half past 11 a. m. & the Oceanus was to sail at 12 M. Finally I won one of the Committee of Arrangements and succeeded in getting passage by paying for it.

It was a splendid boat - built however for running on the Sound and not quite so steady as the Ocean steamers generally. We had fine weather and I was not a particle sick. The company was very agreeable. Rev. Theo. Cuyler who has written such excellent articles in the Independent was one whose acquaintance I was pleased to form. He wished me to tell you that though he had never seen you he felt the greatest sympathy for you and had often alluded to you in his sermons and Church meetings. There were many agreeable ladies. We had speaking every Evening - generally closing with prayer. Of course every one was jubilant over the news received in N.Y. the morning we left - of Lee's surrender. We had a Band on board of high order - a good piano etc. etc. Reached Charleston 13th inst bringing to this Department the first news of Lee's surrender. The anniversary of the first blood of the Rebellion at Charleston brought the news of the finishing stroke by the U.S. forces. Of course Charleston was a gay place. The celebration at Sumpter you will have seen described in the papers. It was a complete success. I hope you will be

opportunity to read Beecher's Oration. Maj. Gen. Anderson seemed like a good Christian in all he said & did. There was a great meeting of the Colored people next morning - I was much gratified in listening to George Thompson of England. He is a powerful Orator - one of the best it has ever been my fortune to hear. I got somewhat acquainted with him and with Theodore Tilton Editor of N. Y. Independent who is a very promising young man bidding fair to make a second Wendell Phillips. Wm Lloyd Garrison spoke well - with a fatherly and Christian spirit - quoting much Scripture. He appears like a pure and upright man. Henry Wilson was very earnest & his speech was calculated to do good. The house was crowded and the people full of enthusiasm - Not half could get into the building so another meeting was held upon the green. Whenever President Lincoln's name was mentioned there would be a perfect storm of applause - unbounded - I never saw anything equal to it. What a blessing to have one's name so embalmed in the hearts of a poor oppressed race - now beginning to know something of freedom! - I reached Beaufort on

Sunday night - having services on the boat on the way down - Lt. Col. Beebe met me at the dock - seeming much pleased to have me back. Every report about the Regiment had been good. It is full to the maximum - 986 men, and present in Camp already 26 Officers.

The camp looks neat - I have been here a week nearly - Drill at battalion drill once a day. I assure you I am delighted with the proficiency of the men in military matters - with Col. Beebe's previous arrangements and work and the prospect of making a first class Regiment - The news of our great national calamity, in the death of President Lincoln cast a dark cloud over our spirits - It came on Tuesday. The distinguished visitors from Charleston were here and were to speak. Gen. Saxton had invited me to move down my Regiment - the meeting to be upon the Common. But the sorrowful tidings reached us just before the appointed hour and everything like public meeting or rejoicings came to an end spontaneously. The visitors did not even stay to take their dinner which was in readiness but left for Port Royal & thence for the North that night. Nothing of this Rebellion has so

filled my heart with sorrow. The loss seemed so irreparable, so unexpected and so terrible in the manner of its occurrence. Then so many fore=bodings for the rule of Johnson. But I felt that I was in the right place and that my ex=perience of four years had not been lost — that the Army's mission was not yet, perhaps, over and that we (of the Army) had learned in this War how to deal with traitors. I do not think it was a feeling of vindictiveness that took possession of my heart but with the great sorrow came a determination to push to the very wall the remnant of this Rebellion in ex=ecuting, as I feel, the holy justice of Almighty God. There was very little light or relief to my heart until yesterday when at the close of my battalion drill I learned of the crowning success of our (Sherman's) Army and of the fall of Mobile & Montgomery. This is truly something to be thankful for and I was thrilled with gladness at so great results.

Gen. Easton talked with Wilson & Beecher (who (the latter) also was here as a sort of inspector & agent of the Secy of War) about your assignment to this Dept.

There is a talk, however, of offering you the bureau at Washington (Colored). I did not think you would like this. And of course felt a selfish interest in having you come down here where I could see you occasionally & above all I have felt that something great & good might be accomplished by you here. Gillmore came near breaking up the Colored people's meeting in Charleston. Did not attend it.

The drum sounds for early morning drill (Squad) and I will superintend it at 4½ a. m. — I rise earlier than I used to, you observe. The climate seems very pleasant — Good breeze almost every day — Rev. Mr. Peck conducted services at Dress Parade for one night before last — lent his respects to you. The two young men Quimby & Bedell got left in N. Y. & I expected them on the Fulton — Cant conceive why they did not come — Most of my officers had to be appointed here — I fear it is too late to get a Regiment for Maj. Whittlesey at present unless we can raise one in North Carolina which Gen. Saxton would like — Wish you might take Sergt. & make an ex cursion to this Department next month or at some time — Gen. Saxton would like very much to have Maj. W. take a Regt. — Your loving brother

O. O. Howard

Raleigh N.C. Apr. 26 1865

Dear,

Gen. Sherman's terms were not approved at Washington. I go with Johnston. No more hostilities today and expect other terms will be arranged. I have just received your letter of the 17th and publishing that I received your above telegraphing. I doubt not I shall telegraph again in an emergency, but do you think wives obey orders as well as soldiers? Gen. Grant came back with Maj. Hitchcock (Sherman's messenger to Washington) was present at the review of the 17th Corps day

before yesterday and yesterday he visited a work amongst the Redcoats after 12 M. The men received him with great enthusiasm. I cannot get over the effect of the death of Mr Lincoln – even the people here believe they have passed into serious hands. and have a sort of appreciation of the fact that they have lost a friend and not an enemy – I must close to be ready for preparatory to my journey. I received the photos – and am thankful but hurried getting changes – I hope you recovering by repairs to Augusta – Much love to mother & the children – I shall probably not get home before July – but this you know

Lovingly
Otis

Camp 128th U.S.C.T. 92
Beaufort S.C.
April 26 1865

My dear brother

I have a few moments this morning before the Drill which begins at 9 a.m. We have heard of the surrender of Johnson's Army to Sherman but seen no news=papers yet. It came (the news) by an Officer of Gillmore's Staff. I hope you will write me about it all. I imagine you may now be on your way to Maine. There could certainly be nothing to prevent. I am much pleased with my Regiment. Have not yet got those Officers asked for from our Army & the Army of the Potomac. Even those two young men Quimby & Bedell have not yet arrived & I do not understand it at all. There was no Gov^t boat coming & I left them in the morning with understanding that I should go to Maine & return to take the Fulton the next Saturday. This was Monday. I directed them to take passage on the Fulton Saturday whether I arrived

or not. A few moments after posting your letter I learned of the Excursion boat "Oceanus" just about to sail. I ran down to the dock and just had time to get on board. I wrote to Capt Thirson the Quarter Master relative to the two young men - fearing this paper might not be adequate - They had gone on for transportation to Beaufort and a Pass from me for New York until the leaving of the Fulton. They may have been crowded out from that boat and may come on the next.

One principal thing I had in mind in writing this morning was to ask if it was not possible for you to let me and Lt. Beebe have two of your horses - the mare I sold you for me - and your other fancy Chestnut-bay horse for Beebe. I find I have to pay $4,00, here for horses not as good as handsome as that mare - and Beebe has always had a great desire to get the other horse. I thought perhaps a boat might be coming or ordered by you from Wilmington or Morehead City and that possibly - if the war is over you would not E

to retain those horses - I suppose it would be too great an expense to take them home.

I have now engaged the use of a good horse for the remainder of this month.

I found that General Saxton had ordered two other Regiments here to Charleston and had engaged to give Briant of Maine a third if it could be raised - So I fear there is little chance for Major Whittlesey at present. Gen. S. does not seem to have any hopes of getting up the Corps now.

There is some intimation that he (Saxton) will have command of everything down here - i.e. the Department, but I doubt it much and he says he would prefer for you to have it. But I think I wrote you that there was talk of putting you at the head of the Colored Bureau at Washington. I told Gen. Saxton I did not believe you would like it & doubted much if you would accept it. There is a greater detestation of Washington than ever before now - since the murder of President Lincoln.

If this reaches you in Maine give much love to all your dear family & to

mother - I go out to superintend the Company Drill now - The social privileges down here are not very extensive but I trust I may be made the means of doing some good. I have a hospital tent pitched and a school I have a day for my R. & L. officers - two colored teachers from the North - teaching them to read and write - My tent is double & has a good floor - shall be very comfortable in this respect -

Your affectionate brother

O. O. Howard

P.S. I have not yet rec'd the copy of your last Official Report which the Clerk was to send me - I would like your signature upon it - O.O.H.

84

Burlington Iowa Aug. 27th 1865

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard.

Dear Gen.

You may think it strange to get a letter from an entire stranger and one of whom you have never heard. My attention was first called to you at the battle of Chancellorville when you commanded the 11th Corps under Maj. Gen Hooker again at Gettysburg Penn. and again by your manly & christian — address before the "U. S. C. C." at Phil on the occasion of its anniversary. Your sterling qualities as a Soldier, your goodness of Heart, your noble actions and manly bearing on all occasions, led ~~me~~ to name one son for you.

allow me to say, that only your trust in God led us to so name our son

The County will never forget the "Christian Gen" O. O. Howard, that is not -- ashamed of Jesus!! Let me assure you that you will live forever in the hearts of the Christian people of this nation. your name is engraved on every loyal heart!

God bless you and your namesake is all I can ask. If consistant with your time and duties and you are so inclined we would be glad to read a letter from your pen.

Yours truly
Jas. R. McCullough

Howard is 16 months old.

Burlington, Iowa. [illegible]

Mc Cullough, Jas. R.

States that he has
named his Child, 14 mos.
old after Gen. Howard.

Answered

Insane Asylum of No Ca
April 20th 1865
[29?]

Major Genl O O Howard
Commanding Army of Tennessee
Raleigh

General

While I deeply regretted the sudden and somewhat abrupt termination of our interview a few days since, I was entirely ignorant of the cause until informed this morning by Genl Ward that your feelings were wounded by remarks of mine touching the admission of an indian negro into the asylum, as well as my complaints of injuries inflicted upon the property of the institution.

Allow me here to say that I do most emphatically disclaim any intention or thought of saying or doing any thing then or at any time in the slightest degree disrespectful to you — My very high appreciation of your personal character

as a Christian Gentleman, my own self respect and the time and place all forbid that I should for a moment place my conduct even a doubtful, much less an offensive attitude before you –

The order of Committal of the insane negro to the asylum by Col Warren Provost Marshal of Raleigh, was presented to me as you remember first at the moment when we were in the act of inspecting the interior of the institution, and from the novelty of its character both in its source and kind, I confess did create for a moment with me some embarrassment.

Up to that time I had acted in the management of the institution as an officer under Statutory Laws of the State and a system of By laws & regulations passed by the legally Constituted Guardians of the institution, to wit: the "Board of Directors." The order of Col Warren being in conflict with both the state law and the usage in such cases caused me to make such comments upon it to you as occurred to me

mind at the moment — my seeming hesitancy at compliance with it however, did not proceed from any want of respect either toward yourself or Col Warren, but simply to the novel condition in which I was placed as Superintendent — a few moments reflection upon the subject together with your suggestion to me to admit the man "simply upon the ground of humanity" decided me upon that course, but which I had not the opportunity of making known to you before your departure from the house —

The institution was noted by the authorities as a State Charity and under a liberal appropriation made annually by the Legislature has been conducted almost exclusively for the benefit of the indigent citizens of the State for the past three years, in which time its apartments have been uncomfortably crowded with occupants, and many others awaiting their admission & entirely insufficient are the buildings —

As yet no provision has been made by the Legislature for the negroes but from past legislation it may reasonably

6

hoped that ample provision will be made for them at no very distant day. In the mean time the master of a slave is required by law to make ample provision for his comfort so that he is not left dependent upon his Master for food, care & safe keeping when insane, than in health.

In justice to myself I will here say that on more than one occasion I have ventured to recommend to the Legislature of the State the importance of erecting a building expressly for the insane negroes of the State.

With respect to my complaint because of injuries & losses sustained by the institution I desired merely to reply to your enquiry upon the subject without intending to locate the blame upon any particular troops, as I did not then nor do I now know with a single exception to what command the parties engaged were

attached – Except the carrying away of the mules, wagons &c belonging to the Institution by the of the Cavalry, I am entirely ignorant of those who were engaged in forcibly entering the different Store rooms and of removing their contents from them – Most of these depredations were committed before Guards were placed around the buildings – and in my first interview with Genl Ward after the liberating his head Quarters near the house he voluntarily tendered full and complete protection to the Institution and assured me, that I must not hesitate to call upon him for all needful aid – In justice to him I will say that he has most faithfully redeemed his promise – Under such circumstances as these am I much pained to learn from Genl Ward that I had charged upon his Troops the perpetration of these gross improprieties – I certainly did not intend to convey such impression upon your mind with respect to them and I deeply regret that you should labour under it – I have thus Genl in as brief

manner as possible endeavored to submit to you a statement of all the circumstances connected with our brief interview as far as my memory can now recall them — We do not hope that my explanation will not only prove satisfactory but be accepted by you as such —

In conclusion I avail of the opportunity to tender to you in most cordiality an invitation to visit the institution whenever I will be most happy to see you and when I am very sure you will know philanthropic feelings will be most enlisted at the wheel to ameliorate the sufferings of Gods most heavily afflicted creatures —

Very respectfully

Ed C. Fisher
M D

Raleigh N.C. Apr. 29th 1865

Darest

I am now just starting with my army northward expect to reach Petersburg by the 10th of next month. If you can arrange matters so as to leave home with two children, say Lizzie & Jennie or Lizzie & Nancy and meet me in Washington about the first of June I shall be most happy. Since I have been here in Raleigh I have been entertained by Mr Thos R.S. Tucker, people young like you & me. I have been treated with the most marked cordiality and have

Is it possible that Nancy will not have servants? I don't want you to work any, my darling. Give much love to Lizzie, Jennie & Nancy & tell the time when I shall see you all to be with you. I hardly realize that there is no more war. Mr Tucker wanted you to come here. It would have been delightful to you here. Which place was charming. Oh how much we should be thankful to God for his blessings. With a loving husband's love for you. Should you happy to be at home give much love to mother.

Yours — Otis

601

acquaint a great friend & help for them. Mrs Tucker has three beautiful little girls. Maggie is later specie a year ago. She has a little niece the age of Mary the other children correspond in age to Jamie & Mary. They have a beautiful home, lately grounds with walks & flowers. Gen. Hardee staid here just before we entered with wife & little boy. Miss Anna wrote me this morning from Hillsboro. She says Willie (16 yrs old) was mortally wounded & died at the battle of Bentonville. He died at the house of a Mr Richard and he brought me for protection for her friends, recalling old times. There is no more to say. I am deeply sorry for the above. Sherman is getting at the heads of the press. He meant right & the reasons for offering generous terms are not rightly set forth. Now every it is to impute wrong motives.

We have now gone to Charlotte & will rest in at Petersburg or Richmond. I expect to reach Washington by the last of May. I know nothing the remotest notion of what will be done with me after my case shall have been investigated out of the service. My great objection to the course is "no home" or rather a worse one. I feel very busily about your working so hard. Changing along