Honored Parents Feby 9th 1813

a considerable time has elapsed since I wrote you last I now have the pleasure to announce the safe arrival of my Brother Everett to my Welcome habitation he arrived to my house about the 10th of Jany last & tarried with me about a week he then went to Doct Pearley and from there to Pamphkeepsie where he tarried a few days and promised a few pastures & then came to my house accompanied by Seth and others after making a short visit & taking a few sleigh rides I went with him & Seth to Pamphkeepsie and on friday Last Everett and I returned home & he is now setting by my fire side in perfect health a conversing with a Frenchman on the affairs of France & the death of Bonneparte which was the rumour here last Evening &c &c — I cannot discribe to you my fulings on his arrival, when I left your House little did I think of seeing him again how changed the scen when beholding him at so great a distance from Home in perfect health — he will hereafter give you a narrative of his Journey which he can do more correctly than I — I believe it was very pleasant and agreable finding his friends and acquaintance all in Good health — I received with Gratitude your Kind proposals for my return & would willingly accept them were my situation different — altho Good fortune has extricated me from the many obligations I have been under (Gratitude Excepted) to my friends in this Country Still I am

N.B. Everett wishes if Tricia Lindsay comes into this Country that he would by all means fetch with him a Spotted Boar that was now in Berwick if I remember rightly —

If my business will possibly admit I think of making you a Visit next fall — agreeable yours &c

W.B. Howard

Stand in a situation that will render it
impossible for me at present to comply with
your generous proposals — I have now Two farms
and a Store of Goods to attend to my Credit
Likewise which is more than all the rest a
man without Credit is poor indeed Should I
relinquish Business and leave this Country a
great sacrifice must be made I should have
[illegible] Lands at a low rate Goods at a reduced
[illegible] business matters should
[illegible] business I am sure
[illegible]ing & by Good fortune
[illegible]ness — I have alread
[illegible] as discontent fatigue
[illegible] my
[illegible] saving to my poverty
[illegible] flashed with pell
the many privelage
[illegible]om your kind indul
[illegible]y Home that your
[illegible]a would soon Extinguish
[illegible]hat the income of a Good
[illegible] in your declining years
[illegible] that has formerly attended
[illegible] affairs are not in so
[illegible]ticipated Especially in
[illegible] more farm Most certainly
[illegible] you can reconcile your
proceeding — [illegible]
selves to so ungenerous an act — altho I owe all
gratitude to you who are the best of Parrents yet from
the little Knowledge I have with the world give me
Strangers not relation to deal with as in the above
Instance — I close these few lines by wishing to be
remembered to all my brothers Sisters & enquiring friends
I wish to be remembered to you & all the
family
Your dutiful Son till death W. B. Howard

4 2/9/1813 ***From:*** W. B. Howard ***To:*** Capt Seth Howard

RBH-0e02

Source: Bowdoin

Febry 9th 1813

Honored Parents

A considerable time has alapsed since I wrote you last. I now have the pleasure to anounce the safe arrival of my Brother Everett to my Welcome habitation. He arrived to my house about the 10th of Jany last & tarried with me about a week. He then went to Doct Bailey's and from there to Poughkeepsie where he tarried a few days and painted a few pictures & then came to my hous accompanied by Seth and others. After making a short visit & taking a few sleigh rides I went with him & Seth to Poughkeepsie and on Friday last Everett and I returned home. He is now sitting by my fire side in perfect health a conversing with a Frenchman on the affairs of France & the death of Bonneparte which was the rumour here last evening &c &c. I cannot discribe to you my feelings on his arrival, when I left your Hous little did I think of seeing him again. How changed the son when beholding him at so grate a distance from Home in perfect health. He will hereafter give you a naritive of his Journey which he can do more correctly than I. I believe it was verry pleasant and agreeable finding his friends and acquaintances all in good health.

I recv'd with gratitude your kind proposals for my return & would willingly except them were my situation different. Altho good fortune has entreated me from the many obligations I have ben under (Gratetude Excepted) to my friends in this Country, still I am placed in a situation that will render it imposible for me at present to comply with your generous proposals. I have now Two farms and a Store of Goods to attend to. My credit likewise which is more than all the rest a man without Credit is poor indeed. Should I relinquish Business and leave this Country a grate Sacrifice must be made. I should have <[Hole cut in paper]>land at a low rate, goods at a reduced <[Hole cut in paper]> business unsettled shouild <[Hole cut in paper]> business I am sure <[Hole cut in paper]>& by good fortune <[Hole cut in paper]>. I have already <[Hole cut in paper]> discontent fatigue <[Hole cut in paper]> my <[Hole cut in paper]> owing to my poverty <[Hole cut in paper]> flushed with self <[Hole cut in paper]> the many privileges <[Hole cut in paper]>from your kind indulgence <[Hole cut in paper]> Home that your <[Hole cut in paper]> would soon extricate <[Hole cut in paper]> that the income of a good <[Hole cut in paper]> in your declining years <[Hole cut in paper]> that has formaly attended <[Hole cut in paper]> affairs are not in so <[Hole cut in paper]> anticipated Especially in <[Hole cut in paper]> farm. Most raskally <[Hole cut in paper]> you can recconcile your selves to do ungenerous an act, altho' I owe all gratitude to you who are the best of Parrents. Yet from the little knowledge I have with the world gives me strangers not relation to deal with as in the above instance.

I close these few lines by wishing to be remembered to all my brothers sisters & enquiring friends. Everet wishes to be remembered to you & all the family.

Your dutiful son till death
W. B. Howard

N.B. Everett wishes if Mr Lindsay comes into this Country that he would by all means fetch with him a Spotted Horse that now in Brunswick if I remember right.

If my business will posibly admit I think of making you a visit next fall.

Again your &c
W.B. Howard

Poughkeepsie Nov. 14th 1813

Dear Parents

permit me once more to trouble your patience with the perusal of another of my letters, I have written so often, & have not been gratified with an answer - that perhaps it may be the height of impridence for me to persist in writing before I am perfectly satisfied whether it is your pleasure to receive my letters or not - - - - - - - Notwithstanding I shall this once, so far abandon myself to my own natural feellings, as to risk the probibility of encuring your displeasure; could I have any sinister motives to actuate me to the performance of this duty, other than what flows from a tender solicitude for your happyness, thinking as I have reason to do from the nature of things, that, that happyness depends greatly on the conduct situation & circumstances of those children, who have the honor of claiming you as their Parents, - & as certain Branches of that family have wandered far from home from their Parents & Early Friends, I have considered it as my duty as one of those to inform you of my situation, health &c. taking it for granted that you have so much of the Parental feelling still entwined upon the heart, that nothing would escape your perusal wherein the least tract appertaining to the welfare of either of your children was noticed. Especially when those fingers that guided the pen & that mind which dictated the sentiments that flowed from it, was numbered as one of them, - confiding on this supposition which I have hastily drawn up, & not wishing to extend my prelude to a much greater length, knowing that you must be very much averse to any thing that Borders on prolixity, I shall break hastily off & inform you that I am in perfect health, & so are all our relation within my knowledge, Fortune has been very favourable to me in all most every respect since I turned my back upon the Province of Maine, health has been one of its greatest bounties, & indeed it is almost impossible to appreciate its worth notwithstanding the trifling account we put upon its value

Mr. Nathl. Coffin
Portland
Maine

yet it is by far the greatest blessing that man can receive from the gives of Life. — I have just been reading the Life of Jenoral Alleraw detailed down to his embarkation for America — as he has been a person verry well known throughout the world as a distinguished Military Character & his conduct of late being so verry mysterious, & my reflecting upon it, was the principal cause of my writing this letter, as there are meney who justify him in his late conduct, I thought proper to offer my sentaments on this subject although I cannot confine within the narrow limits of a letter, the whole which has allready gone from my pen to the publick on this same subject, yet I can offer you a few sketches, which may suffice to acquaint you with my feellings on this subject, you may think perhaps that it has no connection with any duty I ~~can~~ owe to you, still it will gratify my singular curiosity & the remarks that I shall make may not altogether displeasing to your taste, when you consider the source they spring from, — It is now twelve O Clock I think I will retire, the rest you shall have in the morning — Sunday morning Novem^r 15 I shall now resume my subject without a preface — as you may not have a perfect recollection of the circumstances that brought Alleraw to this country, it will be no more than necessary that I should explain them. At the time that Bonaparte was in Egypt Alleraw had the command of one part of the French Army at the shine, if we judge from the almost unprecedented feats that he has performed during his Military career — we must Pronounce him a scholler in Military Tacticks not much if any inferior to Bonaparte, a jenerall who can retreat three Hundred miles in the heart of the enemys country over rivers & mountains with forty Thousand men, & the enemy with a far superior number in his rear, he who could take on his retreat ten Thousand of the enemy must be considered among those of no small fame — Suffice it to say he fought forty Pitched Battles till Bonaparte was appointed 1st Counsil for Life, — then he retired to a private Life where he remained but a short time before he was apprehended for a conspiracy against the life of the 1st Counsil tried & condemed to two years imprisonment from that he was supposed to come to America where he has remained for several years, — & the Federallists have been verry Busy all this time in circulating their suspicions of his being commissioned to bring about a revolution in America, — but no sooner do we see him returned to Europe & there joining Alexander & ~~their~~ fighting against his own Country, than the Federallist proclaim with one voice what a great & good man, — & when the news came that both his legs were shot off & he dead, they all envyd him such a Glorious fall, sheure enough what a Glorious fall it must be to die the death of a traitor fighting against his Native Country but such is the death that has sealed the fate of Jen^l Alleraw Not all the arguments that can be produced from the most able pen, can vindicate his conduct as justifiable in this last expedition, although that party may exert every faculty & every nerve to advocate the cause of Great Brittain & support her in her oppresions, Still can any man who has common sense, let him have ever so much partiality for Great Brittain & the allies, & ever so much hatred for the French, can he believe from his heart, that Alleraw has acted that part which becomes a man of honor — Never, — why then do they urge these sentaments upon those who have not discernment enough to enable them to discover their petty Intrigues? — Because it is the main spring of their party policy, — Could they so far enforce their malicious precepts as to bring the commonalitey of the people to believe that England was fighting for the liberties of the World, that Bonaparte & his Army ought in justice to be demollished from the face of it, & that Alleraw would be instrumental in accomplishing that Object meny would then be led to believe that it was a contest worthy of his former Political Character, & that he died gloriously. — Such men are mistaken admitting that the contest was ever so honorable that the whole world was to be benefited by it still he is a traitor & a Villin who dares lift his arm against his Native Country, he must be lost to that Patriotism which ought to glow in the Breast of every Citizen either civil or Military towards that country that claims him as its native Champion, Shame & disgrace ought forever to follow him whose Patriotism has lost its sway, & whose ambition has taken side with the enemy of his country to bring about a civil commotion — you will please to excuse all errors & ever believe me to be your dutiful son ——— Seth Howard ———

all formerly omitted as it seemed very well knowing Opinion for you on the subject

3	11/14/1812	*From:* Seth Howard	*To:* Capt Seth Howard
RBH-0e03		Poughkeepsie	Leeds County of Kennebeck D.M. Winthrop Post Office
Source: Bowdoin			

Poughkeepsie Novber 14th 1812

Dear Parrents

Permit me once more to trouble your patience with the perusal of another of my letters. I have written so often, & have not been gratified with an answer, that perhaps it may be the height of imprudence for me to persist in writing before I am perfectly satisfied whether it is your pleasure to receive my letters or not.

Notwithstanding I shall this once, so far abandon myself to my own natural feellings, as to risk the probibillity of incurring your displeasure, could I have any sinister motives to actuate me to the performance of this duty, other than what flows from a tender solicitude for your happyness. Thinking as I have reason to do from the nature of things, that, that happyness depends greately on the conduct situation & circumstances of those children, who have the honor of claiming you as their Parents, & as cirten Branches of that family have wandered far from home from their Parents & Early Friends, I have considered it as my duty as one of those to inform you of my situation, health &c. Takeing it for granted that you have so mutch of the Parental feelling still entwined upon the heart, that nothing would escape your perrusal wherein the least trail appertaining to the welfare of either of your children was noticed. Especily when those fingers that guided the pen & that mind which dictated the sentaments that flowed from it, was numbered as one of them. Confiding on this suposition which I have hastily drawn up, & not wishing to extend my prelude to a much greater length, knowing that you must be verry much averse to any thing that Borders on prolixity, I shall break hastily off & inform you that I am in perfect health, & so are all our relation within my knowledge. Fortune has been verry favourable to me in all most every respect since I turned my back upon the Provence of Maine. Health has been one of its greatest bounties, & indeed it is almost impossible to appreciate its worth notwithstanding the trifling account we put upon its value yet it is by far the greatest blessing that man can receive from the giver of Life.

I have just been reading the life of General Meraw [Jean-Victor Moreau] detailed down to his embarkation for America, as he has been a person verry well known through out the world as a distinguished Millitary character & his conduct of late being so verry mysterious, & my reflecting upon it was the principal cause of my writing this letter. As there are many who justify him in his late conduct, I thought proper to offer my sentament on this subject although I can not confine within the narrow limits of a letter, the whole which has all ready gone from my pen to the publick on this same subject. Yet I can offer you a few sketches, which may suffice to acquaint you with my feellings on this subject. You may think perhaps that it has no connection with any duty I owe to you, still it will gratify my singular curiosity & the remarks that I shall make may not altogether unpleasing to your taste, when you consider the source they spring from.

It is now twelve o'clock. I think I will retire. The rest you shall have in the morning.

Sunday morning Novem 15
I shall now resume my subject without a preface, as you may not have a perfect recolection of the circumstances that brought Meraw to this Country, it will be no more than necessary that I should explain them. At the time that Boneparte was in Egypt Meraw had the command of one part of the French Army at the Rhine, if we judge from the allmost unwarrented feats that he has performed during his Millitary carrear, we must Pronounce him a schollar in Millitary tackticks, not much if any infered to Bonaparte, a general who can retreat three hundred miles in the heart of the enemys country over rivers & mountains with Forty thousand men, & the enemy with a far superior number in his rear. He who could take on his retreat ten thousand of the enemy must be considered among those of no small fame. Suffice it to say he fought forty Pitched Battles till Bonaparte was appointed 1st Counsil for Life. Then he retired to a private life where he remained but a short time, before he was apprehended for a conspiracy against the life of the 1st Counsil tried & condemed to two years imprisionment from that he was suffered to come to America where he has remained for several years, & the Federalists have been verry Busy all this time in circulating their suspicions of his being commissioned to bring about a revolution in America. But no sooner do we see him returned to Urope & there joining Alexander & fighting against his own Country, then the Federalists proclaim with one voice what a great & good man, &

when the news came that both his legs were shot off & be dead, they all envyd him such a glorious fall, shure enough what a glorious fall it must be to die the death of a traitor fighting against his Native Country but such is the death that has sealed the fate of General Meraw.

Not all the arguments that can be produced from the most able pen, can vindicate his conduct as justifiable in this last expedition, although that party may exert every faculty & every nerve to advocate the cause of Great Brittain & suport her in her opressions. Still can any man, who has common sense, let him have ever so much partiality for Great Brittain & the allies, & ever so much hatred for the French, can he believe from his heart, that Meraw has acted that part which becomes a man of honor. Never. Why then do they urge these sentaments upon those who have not disernment enough to enable them to discover their petty intrigues? Because it is the main spring of their party pollicy. Could they so far enforce their malicious precepts as to Bring the commonality of the people to believe that England was fighting for the liberties of the world, that Bonapart & his army ought in justice to be demollished from the face of it, & that Meraw would be instrumental in accomplishing that object many would then be led to believe that it was a contest worthy of his former Political character, & that he died gloriously. Such men are mistaken admiting that the contest was ever so honorable that the whole world was to be benefited by it. Still he is a traitor & a villin who dares lift his arm against his Native Country. He must be lost to that Patriotism which ought to glow in the Breast of every citizen either civil or Millitary towards that country that claims him as its native champion. Shame & disgrace ought forever to follow him, whose Patriotism has lost its sway, & whose ambition has taken side with the enemy of his country to Bring about a civil commotion.

You will please to excuse all errors & ever believe me to be your dutiful son
Seth Howard

All formality omitted as it respects sending my love &c. Thinking it useless as you all very well know my affection for you one & all.

[Envelope]
Capt Seth Howard
Leeds
County of Kennebeck
D.M.
Winthrop Post Office

For letter no. 8:

Rowland B. Howard (father) to "Beloved Brother" [Seth Howard] Easton [Mass.] December 11, 1813

See the copybook in the file marked:

Copy book ~~1814 – 1816~~ 1813 – 1816

following the ~~1807 – 1814~~ (aug) Sept 3, 1814 – Oct 25, 1814 folder

1814

Honored Parents

Five Weeks have elapsed since my brother left my home for the district of Maine and not one word have I heard from them — How they can keep me thus in suspence they can better account for than me. Heaven grant that they may arrive ere this and dispelled those cares and anxieties that have so long corroded the breasts of the best of Parents — these reflections are the only consolation I have for the loss of the Company of my unfortunate Brother — any circumstance however great the deprivation may be to me If it will only be the means of render-ing comfort and happiness to my dear Father & Mother I most willingly submit praying Heaven to crown their last days with health and enjoyment — for near Seven Months Everett was with me and little did I think we should be seperated untill the Curtain of life closed the sun for ever — Physicians Friends & acquaintance and he himself — for a long time gave us all hopes of his recovery — the feelings excited on this occasion in my breast can be easier conceived than described; the only elevation was in discharging my duty as far as I was capable which I earnestly hope was acceptable to him and may it be to you all — You no doubt thought strange of my not writing by Everett which I intended to have done

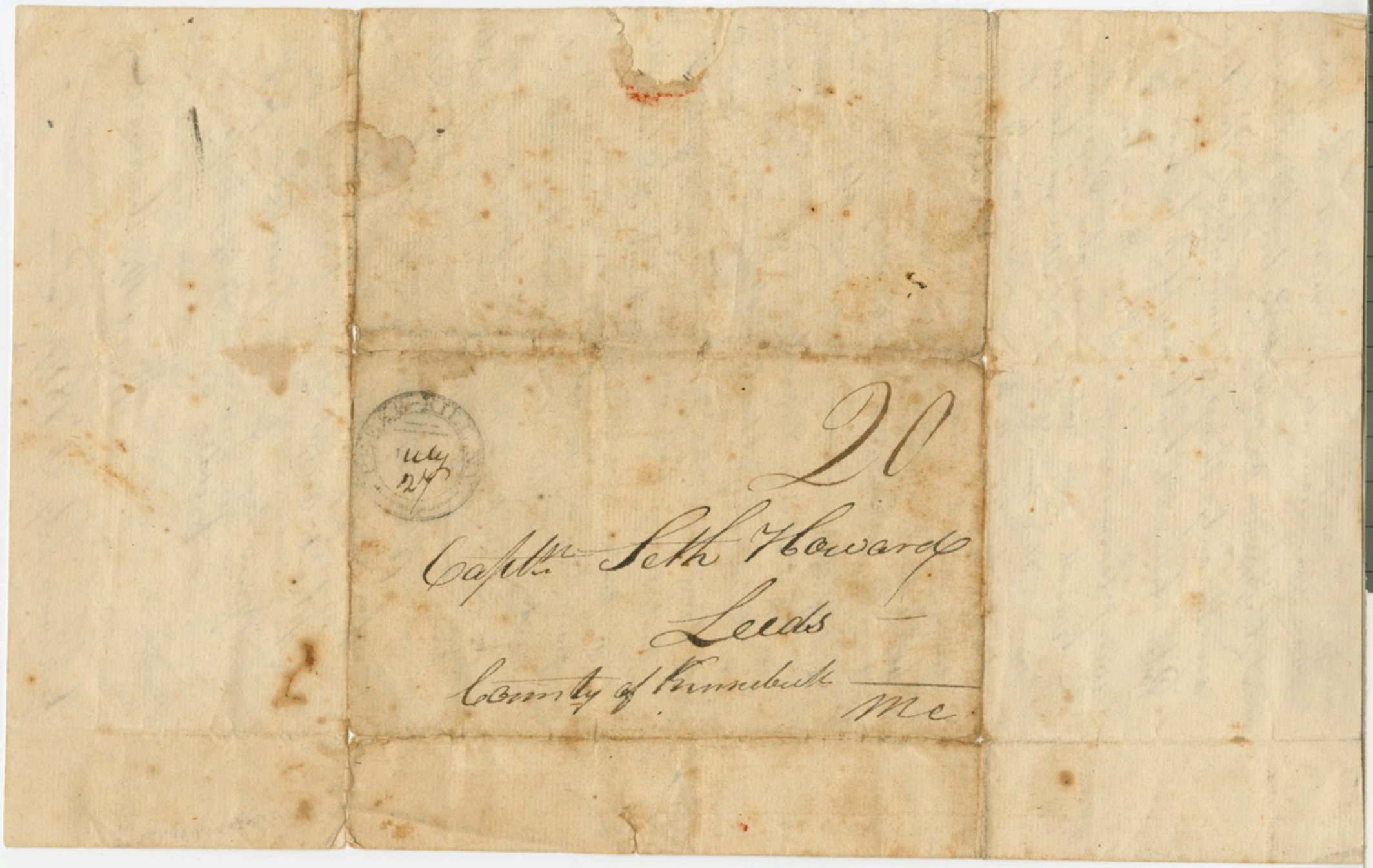
that I assure you I had no expectation of his starting altho he had long had it in contemplation but his feeble health I expected would baffle his resolution In this I have been disappointed — he could however inform you of every particular and should health and circumstances permit I am in hopes to see you this fall probably in September I am however peculiarly situated I have let out my farm to my sorrow I have my store & carding machine to attend to which will render it difficult to leave home — tell Everett that I have kept the machine a going both day & night from the first day she started and now have a large quantity of wool on hand — tell him also that I have got my rye secured in the barn and would give $100 that I had my part of the other crops in my own hands or would have them before I leave home for I have rogues thieves and the devil to deal with — last season was the time I had calculated on returning home but could not accomplish it — I at this time know of but one thing to hinder — a draft takes place in this Regmt this week should I and my boy both be drafted I surely cannot go home should I alone be drafted I can substitute him in my place &c I have no more to inform you more

than you have already heard the affair at Chippewa and Capt Porter loss of the Epervier are the only things of moment at this time Porter letter to the Sec^y ought to be read by every American — Pleas to remember me to Everett may nature's grate Physician soon restore him to perfect health for he has already baffled all Human skill and by this time must be convinced that they do not possess the knowledge or the means to accomplish it — Dad^r & Priests are growing very much out of date ——— you will also remember me to Silman & family and all my brothers & sisters respectively — do hurry with back I long to hear from home — till Everett that every half hour some one of his cousins are calling to know if I have rec^d from him — ingratitude is a name he disdains I had almost charged him with it for not writing — he must inform me from time to time of his health and every thing else

After acknowledging with Gratitude the many favours I have rec^d from you please accept of the best wishes of your son for the preservation of your Health and Happiness

Ward B. Howard

York Town July 26th 1814



20

Capt. Seth Howard

Leeds

County of Kennebec

Me.

6	7/26/1814	*From:* Ward B Howard	*To:* Captn Seth Howard
RBH-0e04		Yorktown	Leeds County of Kennebeck Me
Source: Bowdoin			

Honored Parents

Five weeks have elapsed since my brothers left my hous for the district of Mane and not one word have I heard from them. How they can keep me thus in suspense they can better account for than me. Heaven grant that they may arrive ere this and dispelled those cares and anxieties that have so long corroded the breasts of the best of Parents. There reflections are the only consolation I have for the loss of the Company of my unfortunate Brothers - any circumstance however grate the deprivation may be to me if it will only be the means of rendering comfort and happiness to my dear Father & Mother I most willingly submit praying Heaven to crown their last days with health and enjoyment.

For near Seven months Everett was with me and little did I think we should be seperated untill the curtain of life closed the sun for ever. Physicians Friends & acquaintance and he himself for a long time gave up all hopes of his recovery. The feelings erected on this occasion in my breast can be easier conceived than described; the only deviation was in discharging my duty as far as I was capable which I earnestly hope was acceptable to him and may it be to you all. You no doubt thought strange of my not writing by Everett which I intended to have done. But I assure you I had no expectation of his starting altho he had long had it in contemplation but his feable health I expected would baffle his resalution. In this I have been disappointed. He could however inform you of every particular and should health and circumstances permit I am in hopes to see you this fall probibly in September. I am however peculiarly situated. I have let out my Farm to my sorrow. I have my store& carding machine to attend to, which will render it difficult to leave home. Tell Everett that I have kept the machine agoing both day & night from the first day he started and now have a large Quantity of wool on hand. Tell him also that I have got my rye secured in the barn and would give $100 that I had my part of the other Crops in my own hands or could have them before I leave home for I have rogues thieves and the devil to deal with. Last season was the time I had calculated on returning home but could not accomplish it. I at this time know of but one thing to hinder - a draft takes place in this Region this week. Should I and my boy both be drafted I surely cannot go home. Should I alone be drafted I can substitute him in my place &c. I have no news to inform you more than you have already heard. The affair at Chippewa and Capt Porters loss of the Essex are the only things of moment at this time. Porters letter to the Secy ought to be read by every American.

Pleas to rember me to Everett. May natures grate Physician soon restore him to perfect health for he has already baffled all human skill and by this time must be convinced that they do not possess the knowledge or the means to accomplish it. Doctrs & Priests are growing very much out of date. You will also remember me to Stilman & family and all my brothers & sisters repectively. Do hurry Seth back. I long to hear from home. Tell Everett that every half hour some one of his acquaintances are calling to know if I have heard from him. Ingratitude is a name he disdains. I had almost charged him with it for not writing. He must inform me from time to time of his health and every thing else.

After acknowledging with Gratitude the many favours I have rec'd from you pleas to accept of the best wishes of your son for the preservation of your health and happiness
Ward B Howard

Yorktown July 26th 1814

[Envelope]
Captn Seth Howard
Leeds
County of Kennebeck Me
[Postmark stamp] PEEKSKILL NY July 27

For letter no. 10

Rowland B. Howard (f) to "Dear Sir [Ensign Otis] Yorktown, August 20, 1814

See the copybook in the file marked:

Copy Book ~~1814 - 1816~~ 1813 - 1816

following the ~~1807 - 1814~~ Sept 3, 1814 - Oct 25, 1814 folder

Poughkeepsie August 29th 1814

Dear Sir

I have written to Doct. Bridgam informing him of our safe arival, which letter I presume you have had the pleasure of seeing Ward was here the last week he tells me he shall start in a short time for the Eastward, - I have Entered into Partnership with a Gentlemen of this Villige for the purpose of establishing an Air furnace, & if it is a possible thing we should like to get Mr Lincoln, I have given Ward I instructions respecting it but I thought it necessary to acquaint you with my intentions & request you to engage him so that he may be making preperation previous to Ward, arival We expect to hire him at $2 pr day after he arives & he find himself except his money expences on the journey & that we will defray however if that wont do, say $2 1/4 if that wont do you will wait till Ward arives he has centlemeted instructions, the Ocation of my making this Request of you is, that we wish To have it agoeing as soon as possible, so as to be prepared to cast Stoves before Cold Weather, he may stay as long or as short as he pleases, the longer the better please give my respects to all that may be Interested in my concerns with gratitude I subscribe my self your affectionate Son

Seth Howard

Poughkeepsie August 29th 1814

Dear Sir

I have written to Doct. Bridgam informing him of our safe arival, which letter I presume you have had the pleasure of seeing Ward was here the last week he tells me he shall start in a short time for the Eastward, - I have Entered into Partnership with a gentlemen of this Villige for the purpose of establishing

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[illegible] as soon as possible, so
prepared to last stoves before
[illegible]ther, he may stay as long or -
[illegible]t as he pleases, the longer the better
[illegible] give my respect, to all that may
be Interested in my concerns with gratitude
I subscribe my self your affectionate Son
Seth Howard

20

Capt. Seth Howard

Leeds

Wentworth Post Office

County of Kennebeck

D. M.

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8 8/29/1814 ***From:*** Seth Howard ***To:*** Capt Seth Howard

RBH-0e05 Poughkeepsie Leeds
County of Kennebeck
D.M.
Winthrop Post Office

Source: Bowdoin

Poughkeepsie August 29th 1814

Dear Sir

I have written to Doct Bridgham informing him of our safe arival, which letter I presume you have had the pleasure of seeing Ward was here the last week he tells me he shall start in a short time for the Eastward. I have entered into partnership with a gentleman of this village for the purpose of establishing an air furnace, & if it is a possible thing we should like to get Mr Lincoln. I have given Ward instructions respecting it but I thought it necessary to acquaint you with my intention. I request you to engage him so that he may be making preparation previous to Wards arival. We expect to hire him at $2 per day after he arives & he find himself except his money expenses on the journey & that we will defray. However if that wont do, say $2 1/4 if that wont do you will wait till Ward arives. He has unlimited instructions. The ocation of my making this Request of you is, that we wish to have it agoing as soon as possible, so as to be prepared to cast stoves before cold weather. He may stay as long or as short as he pleases, the longer the better.

Please give my respects to all that may be interested in my concearns. With gratitude I subscribe myself your affectionate son.

Seth Howard

[ENVELOPE]
Capt Seth Howard
Leeds
County of Kennebeck
D.M.
Winthrop Post Office
[POSTMARK] POUGHK NY AUG 29