For letter ho. 25

Rowland B. Howard (1) to Ensign Oris

Beekskiel, January 3, 1816

See the copy took in the file marked:

Copy Book 1813-1816

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Pacyh keepsin July 2008 1816 (Dear Parents having to much to attend to I have delays writing line I arrived here till now - y have the pleasure to on form goes that I cam in health, Like wine all the vert of your relation to having in this planes I came by the way of Newyork stoft at Pecks hill Saw, Mord, Mowland, & Bavis Francis Evenit came with me to Pough keeping, we were all hour together at Parko hill, a concentant that has not hapened this quest while before & endead I never expected it to hapin, the last Journey I road viving Eleven Hundred miles on hone Back in about think days - I new Sound or drops of rain in the whole Time, from Louisville I came I sent food there to Liverylow there Through Workington to Sime stone of may wille, Coped the Old News went Murough Chillicothe Leaving Cincinata To any left port through Zones wille Deaving Monetta To my right nort the Ohio Min at Wheeling into Penselsania through trashington to Pellsburgh about Six Hendrick Miles, then Profeed the mountains to To Easton Robed the Dellivore Miss in To Newyers through Morristown Newgoirk to the city of wargot. the Aleasentest Journey I can roade Excepting about Two Hurdred miles in Pensylvania among Butchman They could not talk English, but we could make the Butch Jirls understand very well, I have traveled more than three thousand miles in the Western lacin try, through Ohio, Bentucky, Tennesey Indicional Territory, Illinois Territory & a little ways in to the Massacram landing, I was within leventy miles of John Lindson but new Daws Them I have been

made for ceace, & for late Too them is a number of branches of Buint Mal & can go into at the Toutherd but have not determed get what I shall do but I what cetter go a bouting to wewarlians or establish an Iron Grounday both very proffitable Harcings but the Boating is very disaquable - but I am determined legit Rich if it is by hard knocks Mouland hindsay is there & thos learnt to be fivener in the human a hade worth On thousand Bollars I him at least of I establish a Grounday on. that County he will go with one when & Shall do well by him, there give my low To aut Linds of & tramely To Atthoun & tramily Sall my relation Grends & argunin lanes What wish to hear I remain with sentaments of belleal Gratitude your offetenate Son-Seth House . Mordered mile in Broughon in moon Taletown

I have been a most elliquest locenty - & and that I could recommend to all young men, - Especially Machanick, - I have not time to explain to zois now The mery local advantages that locating posseper our The Ebstern hast of the Unded States, but at some Jeter Period , I will give you my memoran done in full, & my Observations acation ally as I haveled through provably it will not be till I am settled there I find a great deal of Deffe cutty in Settling my Being there, I don't know how I shall make out but I hope loget through in the course of two or three months I want to best goes before I go to for from your, but I have mit with so meny lopes or been so confuttemente I can hardly afford the Expener, it is but little ways I know - you can immagin to your selves how I look about as fleashy as I was when I was shome I rather darker Com plection, I may come before I retor To the Mestward but its uncerten, I are feet to be many or Doon on & returne but I shall come to see you do Door notewith flooding that - for I can take my little gent in my packet - not much big Longer than a ground oqueral the wants to see you as much or I do - now who would have thought that & Should from your to the Western Country to get me a wife but so it is & cant be helyt - I believe Mowland is getting their a wife & Word not far from it - but that knowing land say - Bowing say, What Accention is One of the Genest Jerlin What Country I new heard tell now that Auxilia had a Son , I wish her much Joy - the cirtishy must be haping it is the own fixeelt - for she has get one of the lest heated men for a Herband this world affords - But Bridgum is what I call a whole soul! Tellow - them are the Ones for me & want none of your half way fellows - I like those that wein Lash on advert & Omile - & Day The world was

g of there we bels **25** 7/29/1816 *From:* Seth Howard

RBH-0e12 Poughkeepsie

Source: Bowdoin

To: Capt Seth Howard

Leeds
Count of Kennebeck

D. M.

Poughkeepsie July 20th 1816

Dear Parents

having so much to attend to I have delayd writing since I arived here till now. I have the pleasure to inform you that I am in health. Likewise all the rest of your relation & friends in this place.

I came by the way of Newyork, stopt at Peekskill saw Ward, Rowland, & Davis Francis. Everet came with me to Poughkeepsie. We were all hous together at Peekskill, a circumstance that has not hapened this great while before & indeed I never expected it to hapen. This last journey I road raising Eleven Hundred miles on horse back in about thirty days. I never saw a drop of rain in the whole time from Louisville. I came to Frankford then to Lexington thence through washington to Limestone at Maysville, crossed the Ohio River went through Challicothe leaving Cincinata.

To my left past through Zanesville leaving Marietta. To my right crost the Ohio River at Wheeling into Pensylvania through Washington to Pittsburgh about Six Hundred Miles, then crossed the mountains to Chambersburgh through Harrisburgh, Carlisle to Easton. Crossed the Dellaware River in to Newyork through Morristown. Newyork to the citty of Newyork. The pleasantest journey I ever made excepting about two hundred miles in Pensylvania among Dutchman. They could not talk English, but we could make the Dutch Girls understand very well. I have traveled more than three thousand miles in the western country, through Ohio, Kentucky Tennesee, Indianah Territory, Illinois Territory & a little ways in to the Missouri Territory. I was within twenty miles of John Lindsay but never saw him. I have been sorry since I did not go.

I have seen a most alligned Country, & one that I could recommend to all young men. Especially Machanicks. I have not time to explain to you now the many local advantages that Country possesses over the Eastern part of the United States, but at some future period, I will give you my memorandum in full, & my observations ocationally as I traveled through. Probably it will not be till I am settled there. I find a great deal of difficulty in settling my Business here. I don't know how I shall make out but I hope to get through in the course of two or three months. I want to visit you before I go so far from you, but I have met with so many losses & been so unfortunate I can hardly afford the Expence. It is but little ways I know. You can immagine to your selves how I look about as fleshy as I was when I was home & rather darker complection. I may come before I return to the Westward, but its uncertain. I expect to be marryed as soon as I return, but I shall come to see you as soon notwithstanding that . For I can take my little girl in my pocket - not much larger than a ground squirrel. She wants to see you as much as I do. Now who would have thought that I should have gone to the Western country to get me a wife, but so it is & cant be helpt. I believe Rowland is getting him a wife & Ward not far from it, but not knowing cant say. Davis says that Lucretia is one of the finest girls in that Country. I never heard till now that Aurilia had a Son. I wish her much joy. She certainly must be hapy as it is her own Fault, for she has got one of the best hearted men for a Husband this world affords. Doct Bridgam is what I call a whole sould fellow. These are the ones for me. I want none of your half way fellows. I like those that can look on adversity & smile, & say the world was made for Caser & for Cato too. There is a number of Branches of Business that I can go into at the Southerd but have not determined yet what I shall do but I expect either go a boating to New orleans or establish an Iron Foundry. Both very proffitabe business but the Boating is very disagreeable, but I am determined to get Rich if it is by hard knocks. Rowland Lindsay is here & has learnt to be fire man in the furnace, a trade worth one thousand dollars to him at least. If I establish a foundary in that country he will go with me where I shall do well by him.

Please give my love to Aunt Lindsey & family to Stillman & Family & all my relation friends & acquaintances that wish to hear. I remain with sentaments of fillial gratitude.

Your affectionate Son Seth Howard

[ENVELOPE]

Capt Seth Howard Leeds Count of Kennebeck D. M.

Leeds March 23d 1819 when dept the trained his Paper the colone to felic the or Rowland, Shave liesure to write to gow, and would to God I he have the oblige the of a time have finder to the Minister Blad had a for their to allow the of so could answer halfa score of your tetters; but not a word have you written since we parted! youth, one so finds of tracing the cen The time is the former desires and the ten capted the nevien of causes and curts, will, foresume be so good on the recipt The Carlot of this, as just to inform me, what Magic Thell has Frested from your hand that pen which you used to hole so leberal The second of th A late writer has said that haumant rundship was like Something the second of the se live embers, when collected log other they warmed each other and were continually breaking out in to flames: but rake them a While a funder they instantly livese their womth or particle stripe; and Bourse land lerd believe he is a born halfright Lew land is laund and the protest a few following you begin to suspect of writing you a serel, no Six nor heys tery, but a few plain family facts - your Parents are well and enjoy a competant portion torgetable nutorment to keep good their Thyseal force and luquerus, to render their days cary and agreable wheel you must know is mot the case with many in this country al prisent some wear the aspect of penungan want while all serious Judges, express serious fears that some animalif not will any fit and then man have to the Bust Sommy South M. human, mush perish for want of subsistance; unless some thingey to a copy and wanter and being the that that the May him triordinary takes place, Steighing commences about the 20th up with his for him on grante the de - The Colore on form till from the Not that continued eversines with little or no intermption, sure commini when the shoot four less weeks with these What arose frementense weather and blocking snowes - But it is a most general time of heatth. I know of ne one seek at present Thave been hauled up a fewdays for Repair, but the Doctor like yeth what have find there my for answering friend Diversion I William Bellowed I and the time

you may by this time be exceeding lives of torsing my illegable scribling, but Revalued is the lest I can do, my hand veloates with my heart, so that it is with deficitly iteon make any thing like letters, Their frequents the Hannah Chonelles company it time this wenter, she after enquires after you with a degree of interestenties, John aft to themb Hannah & Lydin good Gold notweths landing all that has been said eyant. them - Mis Harrick slot of fay has been here for some time with Luesty The is a pretty little bewitching Presting on fond of making conquests or was Hadasah and believe she has partially succeeded in some instances -There are it is now the first date of the Marie Deare has a state of the Marie and a secretary and the state of the Marie has a state of the Marie and the state of the Marie and the state of the state That tough school three months this season and wants one month of com - pletin myging agements when I wastaker ouch I conclude Inust abunden it and when I regain my health. I over, go again to, Bruns wich to wer to the my track, w. hich would be profitable should The able to pay a close on application or the Busines Requires but all is uncertainty with me - Ishall be against a stump non for want of paper son good by till you write to me Davis

a hind langel has laurshed his Magnetia, calemet folup Ile So profubely that the obstructies of xature have gicalded to their influence and Ishalf be able to Actum to School shortly, ser Glenery thanks to god and feverous Reward to the Doctor Than no espays on human understanding no Phetericial or Log visal disirlations - no Geografshier of or Astronomust observations I Plasered love to develope to you; but think you much better pleased to hear of the partial Junction of our functions And first of Uncle for Who murred off two of his girles in one hour to mene the upper country Alphan L. to Mis Step Mr Level Lether to Mit B. Lane The Linday to Olive Chech M. H. Gennings to Alefs Hannah Lettres, det, and Bifs by and by Levertha for a Mandates of Gardner is a particle a your folease, he is a scholar and from common Report a fine man _ Rowlan Twant to see you and chat about the little enteresting pectieses of Pechshill and especially about your little girl, tellis Batherine Mis Kelsie de de Ishout be glad to hear of the shines which Ensegn euch among them but he does not write me er any budy else a Fean heave, Joan Nanny a few days sine in fine healther and Meine - Cupids dast has at lingth persed my heat Liver or comething which will eventually produce Connect cofinter course or lingering Beath! Give my bern plument to Ward Aunt Janny, and all who may inquire ofthe me allech." And to Me Truy in pertuculo should he be within your knowledge ash himto wright and Command Ward to - Tell Bunt Fanny Just That Mod with her lost wenter and loids to here gotter that Oleh Mis Lyin with her fer ture, as we tobked - Write Juer self seen, tell of Juricis cumstione intentions &the Accept my best wishes with these of the whole family and believe my gown undersating friend, Davis

26 3/23/1817 From: Davies To: Mr Rowland B. Howard

RBH-0e13 Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

Leeds March 23d 1817

Rowland,

I have leisure to write to you, and would to God I could answer half a score of your letters, but not a word have you written since we parted! You Sir, one so fond of tracing the connexion of causes and events, will, I presume be so good on the receipt of this, as just to inform me, what Magic Spell has wrested from your hand, that pen which you used to hold so liberal.

A late writer has said that hauman friendship was like live embers, when collected together they warmed each other and were continually breaking out in to flames: but rake them a little assunder they instantly loose their warmth or partial strife; and my ounse Land Lord I believe he is above half right.

You begin to suspect me of writing you a novel, no Sir, nor hystory, but a few plain family facts. Your Parents are well and enjoy a competant portion of vegetable nutrement to keep good their physical force, and luxuries, quantum sufficit to render their days easy and agreeable, which you must know is not the case with many in this country at present - some wear the aspect of penury and want, while all serious judges, express serious fears, that some animals if not human, must perish for want of subsistance; unless some thing extraordinary takes place. Sleighing commenced about the 20th of No'r & has continued ever since with little or no intermission, save what arose from intense weather and blocking snows. But it is a most general time of health. I know of no one sick at present. I have been hauled up a few days for repair, but the Doctor, like you may by this time be exceding tired of torsing my illegible scribling, but Rowland is the best I can do. My hand vibrates with my heart, so that it is with dificulty I can make any thing like letters. I have frequented Miss Hannah Chandlers company at times this winter. She often enquires after you with a degree of interestedness. I am apt to think Hannah & Lydia great girls notwithstanding all that has been said against them. Miss Harriett Starr of Jay has been here for some time with Lucretia. She is a pretty little bewitching creature - as fond of making conquests as was Hadasah, and I believe she has partially succeeded in some instances.

I have taught school three months this season and want one month of completing my engagements when I was taken sick. I conclude I must abandon it and when I regain my health, if soon, go again to Brunswick to work at my tract, as such would be profitable should I be able to pay as close application as the business requires, but all is uncertainty with me. I shall be against a stump soon for want of paper, so good by - till you write to me

Davies

March 28th

Dear Sir,

Since the first date of this letter, I have had a relapse, much to dishearten my spirits, and consume my ponderious system, but yet hope to see better days, but alas I don't know!! Since being confined here I have look around me for some friendly compassionate intimate, have extended my retrospic as far as you, but thought I could see no genial Rays of Heaven born sentiment to illume my sad condition; felt an aching void in my own breast, too poignant for discription, and almost wish to be buried in silence, as deep in the bosom of our earth, as I fill myself, in the memory of those, which I once hailed as the dearest of natures gifts. I am apt to think my constitution of such an exotic nature, that it must be transplanted to some more congenial clime, in order to exist in this world. You used to ask me, in case you commenced business for yourself alone, if I would not come & live with you; such an opportunity I would gladly embrace.

When at Brunswick last winter I received a letter from Ward which I believe I have answered. I have not heard about you or your health since then. You may wish me to write more particular about your family, but they enjoy a tolerable degree of health generally, excepting Lucretia, whose health is indifferent, but her spirits are good. What I before wrote about her gallant, I don't wish you to immagin that serious consequences are likely to attend it. I only wrote it for novelty's sake. God I should almost envy the Best of men such a blessing.

Thomas, I was ready to conclude, last fall thought something of marrying Miss Pitts, but by some strange, fatality (to use Gen Dearborn's expression) has changed his purpose, and she, to please her Parents, has consented to be published - to another man, but declines marryin at present. This Rowland was the most marvilous thing in this County. Hardly a person in town or in the adjacent town but what interested them delve in the affair and Wm Otis' family, who you know were always predudicial against our family, led the ran

A kind Angel has lavished his Magnetia, calemel Jolup &c so profusely that the obstructus of nature have yielded to their influence, and I shall be able to Return to School shortly, so glorious thanks to God and Generous Reward to the Doctor. I have no essays on human understanding, no Rhetorical or Logical disertations, no Geographical or Astronomical observations or Classical lore to develop to you; but think you much better pleased to hear of the partial function of our preventibus.

And first of Uncle Jos who married off two of his girls in one hour, to men of the upper country Alpheus L to Miss L Foss, Mr Levab Lethal to Miss B. Lane, Thos Lindsay to Olive Church, Mr H Jennings to Miss Hannah Lothrop, &c&c, and I guess by and by Lucretia for a Mr Plaidsted of Gardiner is as partial as you please. He is a scholar and from common Report a fine man. Rowland, I want to see you and chat about the little interesting pictures of Peekskill and especially about your little girls, Miss Catherine Miss Kelsie &c &c. I should be glad to hear of the shines which Ensign cut among them, but he does not write me or any body else as I can hear. I saw Nancy a few days since in fine health and Mine. Cupids dart has at length persed my head, Liver or something, which will eventually produce connubial intercourse or lingering Death you know which I don't er care!!! Give my compliment to Ward Aunt Fanny, and all who may inquire after me at Peek's and to Mr Prey in particular should he be within your knowledge. Ask him to wright and command Ward to. Tell Aunt Fanny I wish I had stad with her last winter, and tried to have gotten that old Miss Lyon with her fortune, as we talked. Write yourself soon, tell of your circumstance intentions &c &c.

Accept my best wishes with those of the whole family and believe my your undeviating friend, Davies.

Mr Rowland B. Howard

[ENVELOPE]
Paris Me
March 29
Mr Rowland B. Howard
Peekskill
State of New York County of Westchester

feels for her children when abrent, but I beg gon New Bleam April 2008/11/7 To aest asserved that in whaten Situation I have have -Theor Parents of have the pleasure to inform Those been, or here after may be placed, those good & Testion, Principally instelled in my gouth how we been you that I am in very good health, I arive I I flatter ony relf ever will be my constant quide no doubt that my mi poteoner is their lon signemes have been a source of much application, best it is the destines it of fate & we must Submit, should we with live it in this lity about then days ago after a post-Milowie Herritory when I was Blocks up in the cie all fat tointer. I left that place Medial State Anon the 12th of Month about 9 6 dock in the morning I never left the helm to exceed over an how at a time, till I landed in this lety on the 12th. of April, I was quite worn out with fategin int want of rest - but I am very Smeat now, Jave about 300 borrels of Pork & 100 of Beef, but not fending a morket, I have had it all repair & Stored - Should I not find a good market and the second of the second o here in the course of huenty as Thirty days, I whall Ship it for Newyork of Boston, & then Should facture favour one, I may Once more Witht my paternal vorfi Once more fres to my Bosom will not be dong before I make a visit to that commy bendred treends - you may have blaimed - try, if I don't this decemmes when I shall take with me me for not working oftened, but believe me when long dear Many, Oh! I wish the was their now, to be society Itell you that very convenient offertunity that for you & Suevetice, please to remember me to stillman has presented I belie written, all last winter & famely, But Bridgan & Jamely aunt Lindsay & family Luxetia, Mathten, & Franklin, Grank There was no mails went from the country where a day I want to see him more than a little. Adam I ever, of course I could not write, but not a day, I am still under the newpits of bubiching myrely the unfortunate wanders - Sethstowwerd not an how I may say, that part me, but my

Mought were on those that I left behind, & often has the Selent how Stole down on check while me-- fleeting, that the Changes of fortune has driven me from my hounds, from my home, from all that is new & dear to me in Life, little did I think when lust I Daw you that so soon I should been a vis-- itent in this lety of Disepation, it is now Sunday, but business goes on the Same as any other day, to a thange it appears very odd, but the inhabitant Think nothing of it - I have yest reteins from Takeing a houlk from the buch purt of the lity, out of one hundred children that I saw, there was not To exceed there white ones - in fact the inhabitants are all copes colleved excepting a few that have come from the Eustward, & meny of them have a breole for a wife or Mistref, it Supprice, me very much that a man Brought up in the East ern States weld wer dancy one of these half Mneeds, the Language Spocher here is principally mench, there are people here from all parts of the world - Whis is the grand Mart, or deposit of view & Believe shop from all quentes of the glabe - I have not get been to der the sellibras -ted Buttle ground of Jackson, lecton, but intend going as oon as I have Leisure, after which I will write you the particular, what would you Whink when I tell you, that the Mives is now mo foot higher than the lety- it is kept out by a Level, a mound of dit thrown up about four foot high the River is now

in it highest stage, this Level continues on both bank, of the River up One hundred & fifty miles along which are the most Elligant plantations of Shugas & lotter that leen be in maginus. it Looks like One continued billige on both sides this whole destance, & I am Told it continues So to the Sea a hundred miles down - the richest planters on there plantations own from a Thousand. To ho Thousand negroes - a going able Bodies Negro here is worth One thousand Bollars - they See hard limes poor fellows - They don't get half Enough to eat, there French & Span ears have no morey or humanity- there is no Saw to punish then for Killing their own negroes, if they affre Them- it frequently Happens thou Longe slaws Owner Pout mind Willing a negro if the don't please him - there is at the time about 400 ships 8 Brigs in this port - I spent all most the whole day yesterday to see if I could find a Bessel Bound to Thollowell, but lould find none, had I found one I entended to have sent you a bend of Shuger - I was in hopes to have found One it would have been very gratifing to me to have Sent you this small present is Token of armeinburent & no doubt it might have been of some benight or that country but on it is, it can't be helfsto my dear Mother, I address you in porticular, I have an I die of the

27 4/20/1817 *From:* Seth Howard

RBH-0e14 New Orleans

Source: Bowdoin

To: Capt Seth Howard

Leeds
County of Kennebeck
Province of Maine
Winthrop Post Office

New Orleans April 20th 1817

Dear Parents

I have the pleasure to inform you that I am in very good health. I arived in this City, about ten days ago after a passage of thirty days, from Cape Girardeau County Missouri territory, where I was Blocked up in the ice all last winter. I left that place the 12th of March about 9 Oclock in the morning & never left the helm to exceed over an hour at a time, till I landed in this City on the 12th of April. I was quite worn out with fatigue & want of rest. But I am very Smart now, have about 300 barrels of Pork & 100 of Beef, but not finding a market, I have had it all repacked & stored. Should I not find a good market here in the course of twenty or thirty days, I shall ship it for New York or Boston, & then Should fortune favour me, I may once more visit my paternal roof. Once more press to my bosom my kindred friends.

You may have blaimed me for not writing oftener, but believe me when I tell you that every convenient opportunity that has presented I have written, all last winter there was no mail went from the country where I was. Of course I could not write, but not a day, not an hour I may say, that past me, but my thoughts were on those that I left behind, & often has the Silent tear stole down my cheek while reflecting, that the change of fortune has driven me from my friends, from my home, from all that is near & dear to me in Life. Little did I think when last I saw you that so soon I should been a visititant in this City of disipation.

It is now Sunday, but business goes on the Same as any other day, to a stranger it appears very odd, but the inhabitants think nothing of it. I have just returned from takeing a walk from the back part of the City, out of one hundred children that I saw, there was not to exceed three white ones. In fact the inhabitants are all coper collered excepting a few that have come from the Eastward, & many of them have a creole for a wife or Mistress. It supprises me very much that a man Brought up in the Eastern States could ever fancy one of these half breeds, the language spocken here is principally French. There are people here from all parts of the World. This is the grand Mart, or deposit of vice & debauchery from all quarters of the globe.

I have not yet been to see the cellebrated Battle ground of Jackson's victory, but intend going as soon as I have leisure, after which I will write you the particulars. What would you think when I tell you, that the River is now two foot higher than the City. It is kept out by a Levee, a mound of dirt thrown up about four foot high. The River is now in its highest stage. This Levee continues on both banks of the River up One hundred & fifty miles along which are the most Elligant plantations of shugar & cotten that can be immagined. It looks like one continued village on both sides this whole distance, & I am told it continues so to the sea a hundred miles down.

The richest Planters on these plantation own from a thousand to two thousand negroes - a young able Bodied Negro here is worth one thousand Dollars. They see hard times poor fellows. They don't get half enough to eat. These French & Spaniards have no mercy or humanity. There is no Law to punish them for killing their own negroes, if they affront them. It frequently happens those large slaves owners don't mind killing a negro if he don't please him.

There is at this time about 400 ships & brigs in this port. I spent allmost the whole day yesterday to see if I could find a vessel Bound to Hallowell, but could find none. Had I found one I intended to have sent you a barrel of shugar. I was in hopes to have found one. It would have been very gratifying to me to have sent you this small present a token of remembrance & no doubt it might have been of some benefit to you, as shugar must be high in that country. But as it is, it cant be helpt.

My dear Mother, I address you in particular, I have an idea of the tender anxiety a fond mother feels for her children when absent, but I beg you to rest assured that in whatever situation I have here before been, or hereafter may be placed, those good & virtious principals instilled in my youth have ever been & I flatter myself ever will be my constant guide. No doubt that my misfortunes & their consequences have been a source of much affliction, but it is the destinies of fate & we must submit. Should we both live it will not be long before I

make a visit to that country. If I don't this summer when I shall take with me my dear Mary. Oh! I wish she was there now, to be society for you & Lucretia. Please to remember me to Stillman & family, Doct Bridgam & family Aunt Lindsay & family, Lucretia, Rathburn, & Franklin, Frank. A day I want to see him more than a little. Adeu. I am still under the necessity of subscribing myself the unfortunate wanderer.

Seth Howard

[Envelope]
[Postmark] [faint]
Capt Seth Howard
Leeds
County of Kennebeck
Province of Maine
Winthrop Post Office

I must my when ethe the lets more exporume Selvano Parent III de de de la contra del la cont in the Phurines & more acquainted with the haple that to undichole The him when I that he able to pray you a short want on Long I mention and lake the literty to write With his of offiction linder leverine not well bounding I must think you have almost (A) I have then the the form of the selling forgeten me of I have not receive one Letter from home for more than six months and have waited More of the state unstandy every mail like I have given wife the Idea of heaving from you - With pleasure I can day for the first hime in my life I have ing any perfect health for the tast six months - Una lewhole of continue to how gratifying it covale be to me were it Republe to wirt my parents, Buthers, titus of the friends - But fortune the governor of human pleasures has long denied me that Suprime felicity and nothing but dame prudence his presente New orgins a Her days vapo while I was me from inaching a moment to spend with you in teaper well typt his seen hard line I am wuched with gratetude when I reflect on your to brought a washand of Pak for whe Care, anduity & prudence to instite in my mind Good precepts and examples up my youth & which I hope have been so far wefull as to not und detich the lin burney hood Buckey render your son unworthy of his parentage Title of mouning to the village -Altho, herapation has been round me as a sname him my respect to level to Sunties Prothbern and Vice as a temptation - his appointment the Franklin & all Brothers dotos & friends natural allendant on a fruitful immagenation hus some line her my lot of but I have is great Houte your appetionate som my situation no reason to complain of more non les considering that I am nothing

Thuse a fear Jong man - Mr. Mis you have Undoubtedly lemb is my partner we are in Our new Stone much the hansomest in the village With a very Great & General abortment of foods Sell at a Small profit and for out only doing at present more business than any around us I have fut in my proposition of The partnership money & shall be much disapo inted if Mr Ohi does not at least get five hundred Hollars soon notwithstanding my credit is Govor in Musyork for ong amount I would the likely to ask but your know it was always my with to do business safe I thin if his fother could once come into our Store & see how he is setunted he would help him to some money which if he ever exherted to do I should my wort be the most use to him now - he is a very predent daving yong man, very much improved & will thorthy handle good with a very good grave well contented & well pleased as you must know that it in made thing for a young man to be introduced into Such attenuve business - It ourpeys our whole the There execht to leng Goods

in The Busines & more acquounted with The people that & articipale the line when & Shall be able to pay you a short vesit Wh. The his of affection bind me to maine notwithstanding the distance I am from you Wand is well has led a face mice & Keeps an extension Lumber yard in the willage in com hung with Mr Monguis Pholips a neppew of Uncle have Thilips who does The leasings his Justice I Sherif busines accopies his whole othertein twent Theard from The 20 of Aprile Then in Savarmaf in Georgia have made much money as was in the best of health -Seth arrived in The City of New york from New Orleans a gles days ago while I was he brought a 100 barrels of Fork for sale - Unile Thilips has moved to pechokill and det up the lin business Doet Briley, Teels of moving to the veillage Give my respects to love to Question Prothbon Franklin & all Brothers Jostes & friends in great Haste your affectionate som

28 6/15/1817 From: RB Howard To: Capt Seth Howard

RBH-0e15 Peekskill

Source: Bowdoin

Leeds County of Kennebec D. Maine via Winthrop P Office

Peekskill June 15, 1817

Beloved Parents

I take the liberty to write notwithstanding I must think you had almost forgotten me as I have not received one Letter from home for more than six months and have waited anxiously every mail till I have given up the Idea of hearing from you. With pleasure I can say for the first time in my life I have enjoyed perfect health for the last six months. And while I continue so, how gratifying it would be to me were it Possible to visit my parents, brothers, sisters & old friends. But fortune the govenor of human pleasures has long denied me that supreme felicity and nothing but dame prudence has prevented me from sneaking a moment to spend with you. I am touched with gratitude when I reflect on your care, assiduity & prudence to instill in my mind Good precepts and examples in my youth & which I hope have been so far usefull as to not render your son unworthy of his parentage. Altho, Desapation has been round me as a snare and vice as a temptation & Disappointment the natural attendant on a fruitful immagination has some times been my lot. But I have no reason to complain of my situation considering that I am nothing more nor less than a poor young man. Mr Otis you have undoubtedly lernt is my partner. We are in our new Store much the hansomest in the village, with a very Great & General assortment of goods sell at a small profit and for cash only doing at present more business than any around us. I have put in my proportion of the partnership money & shall be much disappointed if Mr Otis does not at least get five hundred dollars soon notwithstanding my credit is good in New York for any amount I would be likely to ask. But you know it was always my wish to do business safe. I think if his father could once come into our Store & see how he is situated he would help him to some money which if he ever expected to do I should any wait be the most use to him now. He is a very prudent saving yong man, very much improved & will shortly handle goods with a very good grace, well contented & well pleased as you must know that it is no small thing for a young man to be introduced into such extensive business. It occupys our whole attention myself in a special manner never leave the store except to buy Goods.

I must say when Mr Otis gets more experience in the Business & more acquainted with the people that I anticipate the time when I shall be able to pay you a short visit. Oh! The ties of affection bind me to maine notwithstanding the distance I am from you.

Ward is well, has led a saw mill & keeps an extensive lumber yard in the village in company with Mr Marquis Philips a nephew of Uncle David Philips who does the business. His justice & sherif business occupies his whole attention. Everet I heard from the 20 of Aprill, then in Savannah in Georgia. Had made much money & was in the best of health. Seth arrived in the City of New York from New Orleans a few days ago while I was in town, well, but has seen hard times. He brought a 100 barrels of Pork for sale. Uncle Philips has moved to Peekskill and set up the tin business. Doct Bailey talks of moving to the village.

Give my respects & love to Lucretia Rathburn Franklin & all Brother sisters & friends. In great Haste.

Your affectionate son RB Howard

[Envelope]
Capt Seth Howard
Leeds
County of Kennebec D. Maine
via Winthrop P Office