

Pershie 25th June 1819

My dear Mother

I seize a moment
to inform you that six of your
children are now with me (including
myself) all in perfect health. I
recd. your letter some time since
for which inestimable favor I tender
you my gratefull thanks, I wrote
to Stettin immediately on the
receipt of your letter on the subject
of its contents. I have recd. his
answer from Boston, I shall
refrain from writing on that subject
as in all probability Seth or myself
or both of us will visit you in
few weeks after the receipt of this
I have much to inform you &
the limits of a letter are wholly
inadequate to express my feelings
of Gratitude to you & my kind
& indulgent Father - by whom
I saw your letter to Everett who
is now with me. I was extremely

happy to hear from you, but regret
extremely that any sentiments expressed
by my kind & affectionate mother should
in any particular be exceptionable, that
just alluding to C. Fillebrown I highly
approve his conduct I am well
convinced discover the disapprobation
of each individual of our family & I
assure you is not acceptable to my
Dear Sister Lucretia — But when
you hint on the subject of her
union with an other person and
discover a considerable anxiety for
its accomplishment, I must beg
leave to shide you on that subject
and flatter myself from the generous
sentiments I know you to possess, you
will never use ^a the union of your
daughter with one who is not of her
rank, I have no time to portray
the consequences, suffice it to say
evils of the most serious nature
have often resulted from this
interference of parents, in selecting
partners for their children — I

Give my best respects to my father
I shall endeavour to visit you when
Lucretia returns which will
probably be in July. If not at
that time I shall so arrange
my business to see you in the fall
until then except this assurance
of my feelings of gratitude and
kind affection for each of you
Yours truly
W. B. Howary

that

N.B. I shall probably have occasion
to use the horse which I own
Otes when I arrive there for
my bare conduct & conversation
respecting me —

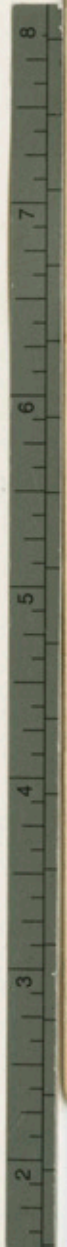
P.S. Lucretia and all your children
send love to you
W. B. H.



Peekskill
25th June

18 1/2

Capt^l Seth Howard
Leeds
County of Kennebec — (ME)



36 6/25/1819 *From:* W.B. Howard

To: Captn Seth Howard

RBH-0e20

Peekskill

Leeds

County of Kennebeck Me

Source: Bowdoin

Peekskill 25 June 1819

My dear Mother

I seize a moment to inform you that six of your children are now with me (including myself) all in perfect health. I rec'd your letter some time since for which inestimable favor I tender you my gratefull thanks. I wrote to Stillman immediately on the receipt of your letter on the subject of its contents. I have rece'd his answer from Boston. I shall refrain from writing on that subject as in all probability Seth or myself or both of us will visit you a few weeks after the receipt of this.

I have much to inform you & the limmits of a letter are wholly inadequate to express my feelings of Gratitude to you & my kind & indulgent father, by chance I saw your letter to Everett who is now with me. I was extremely happy to hear from you, but regret extremely that any sentiments expressed by my kind & affectionate mother should in any particular be exceptionable, that part alluding to C. Fillebrown I highly approve his conduct I am well convinced deserves the disapprobation of each individual of our family & I assure you is not acceptable to my Dear Sister Lucretia. But when you tread on the subject of her union with an other person and discover a considerable anxiety for its accomplishment, I must by leave to chide you on that subject and flatter myself from the generous sentiments I know you to possess, you will never urge a union of your daughter with one who is not of her choice. I have no time to portray the consequences, suffice it to say evils of the most serious nature have often resulted from this interference of parents in selecting partners for their children.

Give my best respects to my father. I shall endeavor to visit you when Lucretia returns which will probably be in July. If not at that time I shall so arrange my business to see you in the fall. Untill then except this assurance of my feelings of gratitude and tender affection for each of you.

Your Son
W.B. Howard

N.B. I shall probably have occasion to use the horse while to Oliver Otis when I arrive there for his base conduct & conversation respecting me.

PS. Lucretia and all your children send love to you.
W.B.H.

[Envelope]
Peekskill 25 June
[Postage] 18 ½
Captn Seth Howard
Leeds
County of Kennebeck Me

Capt. C. H. Hayward
Seeds

Given by Lucretia Howard
M.C.

Dear Father & Mother

16th July 1819

after I gave up the
Idea of returning with Lucretia I
intended writing a long letter to you
but have neglected it until the eve
of her departure & shall now be under
the necessity of referring you to her
for every information respecting me
your repeated favors & kind offices
to me through life merit & shall
ever remain my gratitude. In
consequence to let Lucretia visit
me you have laid me under ^a double
obligation to you, & be assured it shall
never be forgotten, I can truly say
I have enjoyed more pleasure in her
society for nine months past than
I have before enjoyed during my
absence, no trifling obstacles would
have prevented my returning with

her. It would be a source of gratification
to me to restore to the arms of my
beloved parents in person the idol
of my heart she will teach you to
forget the loss of all your absent
children, my regret ~~at~~ ^{the thought of} parting with
her is more than I can express. I would
in no way reconcile myself to this
event but from the ~~clear~~ consideration
that your claims are paramount
to mine, I flatter myself you will
excuse my detaining her so long
when you discover her complete
restoration to health, should her health
again become impaired let no time
be lost in giving me information
for a change of climate is perhaps the
only restoration — Dear Mother
excuse my encroaching so much of
my letter on the subject of my
sister & do not consider for a moment

my attachment to her detracts in the least
from the love I bear to you, on the other
hand it is to you I am indebted for having
such a sister & for the many virtues she
possesses. I have only to add, whatever
her prospects may hereafter be I earnestly
hope in the detraction of a partner for life
that no mercenary motives may influence
her friends or her in such choice, —

I long to see you all once
more I do not wholly despair of
making you a visit this fall. — be
pleas'd to accept this assurance of
my fondest affection & gratitude
to each of you, & thro' you to
our family respectively —
Wm B. Howard

37 7/16/1819 *From:* Ward B. Howard

To: Capt'n Seth Howard

RBH-0e21

Leeds

Me

Source: Bowdoin

16th July 1819

Dear Father & Mother

After I gave up the Idea of returning with Lucretia I intended writing a long letter to you but have neglected it untill the eve of her departure & shall now be under the necessity of refering you to her for every information respecting me. Your repeated favors & kind offices to me, through life merit & shall ever command my gratitude. In condescending to let Lucretia visit me you have laid me under a double obligation to you, & be assured it shall never be forgotten. I can truly say I have enjoyed more pleasure in her society for nine months past than I have before enjoyed during my absence, no trifling obstacle would have prevented my returning with her. It would be a source of gratification to me to restore to the arms of my beloved parents in person this idol of my heart. She will teach you to forget the loss of all your absent children. My regrett at the thought of parting with her is more than I can express. I could in no way reconcile myself to this event but from the consideration that your claims are paramount to mine. I flatter myself you will excuse my detaining her so long when you discover her complete restoration to health. Should her health again become impaired let no time be lost in giving me information for a change of climate is perhaps the only restoration. Dear Mother excuse my occupying so much of my letter on the subject of my sister & do not consider for a moment my attachment to her detracts in the least frm the love I bare to you. On the other hand it is to you I am indebted for having such a sister & for the many virtues she possesses. I have only to add, whatever her prospects may hereafter be, I earnestly hope in the selection of a partner for life that no mercenary motives may influence her friends or her in such choice.

I long to see you all once more. I do not wholly despair of making you a visit this fall. Be pleased to accept this assurance of my fondest affection & gratitude to each of you, & thro you to our family respectively.

Ward B. Howard

Capt'n Seth Howard

Leeds

Me

<> by Lucretia Howard

Parkhill October 3^d 1817

Dear Sir I have the pleasure to inform you
of our safe arrival at Doon Bailey, on Friday
Evening last making thirteen days from home
we arrived at Bieldwater the Friday afternoon
we left you remained there till Monday
morning, it raining without intermission
Saturday & Sunday - we had extreme good
luck, whether it was owing to the very particular
& obliging prayers of Mr. Barrell on my own good
fortune that naturally attends me when I am
journeying I cannot say, whatever cause it may
be originated from it would not in the
least diminish in the least the exalted Opinions
I entertain of his Serenity, I should have felt
myself under equal Obligations, let the result
have been what it might, May stand his journey
remarkably well considering all things, the Horse
was rather inclined to fail towards the last
but like Pegasus, Waried he is determined
not to die yet - the carriage performed re-
markably well & underwent no more dislocations
we had the happiness of finding all our friends
in very good health & seemed pleased to
see us - please excuse the word seemed - a
deep & thorough knowledge of the world has
put this & other words of the same meaning
in to my saddle & unless I am very circumspet

They will come out where in some instances
they are entirely useless & perhaps ungenerous
Cabinet & Board come to West Hailys on Saturday
Evening & last evening I returned with them
to the place leaving Mary at the West, for
a few days Howland is here & talks some of
going to the State of Maine I have no advice
from the Southward in consequence of which
I shall remain here longer than I did expect
I fear I shall suffer great loss from the
failures both at New Orleans & Charleston —
it is useless to attempt to describe feelings that
are the inmate of every bosom that possess a
heart of sensibility particularly one who
has been the child of Misfortune I refer
to the partial knowledge you have of my exas-
-cated & disposition & the principles that regulate
my actions I cannot say any feelings because
they appeal to a higher source of Originality
& then fancy to yourself with what ease I can
stem the wildest torrent of adversity, that inde-
-pendence of soul which god has condescended
to bestow on me can never fail, whether I am
possessed of every blessing that affluence can give
or whether I am confined to the dreary walls
of a prison, I shall remain steadfastly the
same, there is none can know me but those
that can feel like me & to seek only will
my sentiments & opinions appear rational
How frequently have I been amused or

rather disgusted with the sarcastic & illiberal
Observations of some, of company I have frequented
before this, on my sensibility & want of life
& animation, believe me I do not envy them
their enjoyments but rather pity their in-
fatigations knowing they never enjoy that superior
sense of feeling stored in a mind conversant
with itself - please receive my kindest

remembrance ~~to~~ to America & all my friends,
I shall write to my parents when I have
more leisure

Adieu yours affectionately
J. M. Howard

They will come out where in some
They are intended

Pucknell
October 4

For
Wm. W. W.

Handwritten signature or initials, possibly "Wm. W. W."

to me
- action & disposition & the principles that regulate
my action, I cannot say my feelings, because
they appeal to a higher source of Originality
& then fancy to yourself with what ease I can
stem the wildest torrent of adversity, that inde-
pendence of soul which god has vouchsafed
to bestow on me can never fail, whether I am
possessed of every luxury that affluence can give
or whether I am confined to the dreary walls
of a prison, I shall remain steadfastly the
same, there is none can know me but those
that can feel like me & to seek only will
my sentiments & opinions appear rational
How frequently have I been amused or

38 10/3/1819 *From:* Seth Howard

To: Doct Thomas Bridgham

RBH-0e22

Peekskill

Leeds

Maine

Source: Bowdoin

via Winthrop Post Office

Peekskill Oct 3d 1819

Dear Sir

I have the pleasure to inform you of our safe arival at Doct Baileys on Friday Evening but making thirteen days from home. We arived at Bridgwater the Friday after we left you. We remained their till Monday morning, it raining without intermission Saturday & Sunday. We had extreme good luck whether it was oweing to the very particular & obliging prayers of Mr Barrel or my own good fortune that naturly attends me when I am journeying I cannot say whatever cause it may have originated from. It would not in the <least> diminish the excelled opinion I entertain of his sincerity I should have felt myself under equil obligations let the occult have been what it might.

Mary stood her journey remarkably well considering all things, the Horse was rather inclined to fail towards the last but like Hudebrasses warier he is determined not to die yet. The carriage performed remarkably well & underwent no more dislocations.

We had the happyness of finding all our friends in very good health & seemed pleased to see us. Please excuse the word seemed - a deep & thorough knowledge of the world has put this & other words of the same meaning in to my noddle & unless I am very circumspect they will come out where in some instances they are entirely useless & perhaps ungenerous.

Everet & Ward came to Doct Bailys on Saturday Evening & last Evening I returned with them to this place leaving Mary at the Doct's for a few days. Rowland is here, & talks some of going to the state of Maine. I have no advice from the Southward in consequence of which I shall remain here longer than I did expect. I fear I shall suffer great losses from the failures both at New Orleans & Charleston. It is useless to attempt to discribe feellings that are the inmate of every bosom that possesses a heart of sensibility particularly one who has been the child of misfortune. I refer <you> to the partial knowledge you have of my <[torn page]> & disposition & the principal that regulates my actions. I cannot say my feellings because they appeal to a higher source of originality & then fancy to yourself with what care I can stem the wildest torrent of adversity, that independence of soul which god has condescended to bestow on me can never fail, whither I am possessed of every luxury that affluence can give or whether I am confined to the dreary walls of a prison, I shall remain steadfastly the same. There is none can know me but those that can feel like me & to Such only will my sentiments & opinions appear rational. How frequently have I been amused or rather disgusted with the sarcastick & illiberal observations of some, of company I have frequented before this, on my sensability & want of life & animation. Believe me I do not envy them their enjoyments but rather pity their infatuations knowing they never enjoy that refined sense of feelling stored in a mind conversant with itself.

Please excuse my haste. Remember me to Aurelia & all my friends. I shall write to my parents when I have some leisure.

<Ada> yours affectionately
Seth Howard

[Envelope]
Peekskill
October 4

Doct Th<omas Bridgham [torn page]>
<Leeds>
via Winthrop [Post Office]

Puckkill Nov-20th 1819

Dear Parents I have the pleasure to inform you
that all your relations & friends in this part
of the country enjoy very good health at
present, contrary to my expectations when
I left you, I think it pretty likely I shall
not go to the South this winter, in consequence
of letters reciev'd from New Orleans no longer ago
than last evening I have made up my mind
to tarry here at present for a short time at
least. Mary enjoys her health tolerably
well, I have moved my furniture from New-
York here & commenced keeping house, Mrs
Howard is often wishing for sweetie to
spend the winter with her, if she was, I
have no doubt she would if possible enjoy
herself better than she did last, I occupy
one of Wards houses which I have fitted
up in very handsome stile, we had quite
a party last evening & company more or
less every evening. Pamela is now here
came from Newburgh day before yesterday
in company with Miss Johnson we had

The pleasure of her company one evening
& yesterday afternoon word took her to her
Parents. He has not yet returned permission
will remain here some time she left her
Parents & friends in good health, & says her
Father is doing very well. Word is a building
his New house - time, and very hard & money
scarce - Covert started from here day before yester-
-day for the South, he has conducted so impar-
-tially, that I think he has not so gained in
Peterskill except his brother, from what I can
understand Word has conducted very
& liberally towards him paid him principal
& interest for every thing he ever had of him &
charged him nothing for any expense he has
been to him since he has been living here
I am sensible he never will be thankful for
it - Rowland I believe is preparing to return
to the State of Maine pretty shortly, I am
waiting to receive some letters that have
through mistake been forwarded to Bollowel
after which if I do not go to the South
I shall commence the study of the Law

this perhaps may surprise you but all the
business is now at a stand & nothing doing
& being situated as I am with the advantage
of an excellent library I have taken every
then I flatter myself
it is to be shewn
it is to be shewn
I no longer have
it is to be shewn
your
by the
the
long
we
after
I have

tion & flatter myself
do. to be shewn
ing, but have
to go through with
to more than 27
try & perseverance
can commence
to you a gain before
our friends & relations
to hear from you
just write to Mrs
' remain your
Seth Howard

39 11/20/1819 *From:* Seth Howard

To: Dear Perents [Capt Seth Howard]

RBH-0e23

Peekskill

[Leeds]

Source: Bowdoin

Peekskill Nov 20 th 1819

Dear Parents

I have the pleasure to inform you that all your relation & friends in this part of the country enjoy very good health at present, contrary to my expectations when I left you. I think it pretty likely I shall not go to the south this winter, in consequence of letters recvd from New Orleans no longer ago than last Evening. I have made up my mind to tarry here for a short time at <?erents>.

Mary enjoys her health tollerably well. I have moved my furniture from New York here & commenced keeping house. Mrs Howard is often wishing for Lucretia to spend the winter with her. If she was here, I have no doubt she would if Possible enjoy herself better than she did last. I occupy one of Wards houses which I have fitted up in very handsome stile. We had quite a party last Evening & company more or less every evening.

Pamelia is now here, came from Newburgh day before yesterday in Company with Miss Johnson. We had the pleasure of her company one Evening & yesterday afternoon. Ward took her to her Fathers. He has not yet returned. Pamelia will remain here some time. She left her Parents & friends in good health, & says her Father is doing very well. Ward is a building his New house. Times are very hard & money scarce.

Everet started from here day before yesterday for the South. He has conducted so imprudently, that I think he has not so friends in Peekskill except his brothers. From what I can understand Ward has conducted very <> & liberally towards him, paid him principal & interest for every thing he ever had of him & charged him nothing for any expence he has been to him since he has been living here. I am sensible he never will be thanked for it. Rowland I believe is preparing to return to the State of Maine pretty shortly.

I am waiting to receive some letters that have through mistake been forward to Hallowel after which if I do not go to the South I shall commence the study of the Law. This perhaps may surprise you, but all the business is now at a stand & nothing doing & being situated as I am with the advantage of an excellent library I have taken every thing <[hole cut in paper]> & flatter myself it <[hole cut in paper]> do. To be shure it <[hole cut in paper]> , but have I <[hole cut in paper]> to go through with it? <[hole cut in paper]> more than 27 years <[hole cut in paper]> & perseverance by the <[hole cut in paper]> can commence the <[hole cut in paper]> you a gain before long <[hole cut in paper]> our friends & relations we <[hole cut in paper]> to hear from you often <[hole cut in paper]> write to Mrs Howard <[hole cut in paper]> I remain your

Seth Howard