

Peekskill Jan. 30 - 1821

Could you not my dear cousin like to know what the Yorkers are about this winter? I have no mind to wait for an answer to my question, but feeling in a very communicative disposition shall proceed to tell you all the news and nonsense that enters my head while I am writing.

You no doubt have received my letter dated sometime in December long ago. Why you have not answered it I cannot imagine, and I suppose some young ladies, more precise than your cousin Pamela would wait a long long time before they would write a second <sup>letter</sup> without an answer to the first. However taking all things into consideration I shall now and ever write "while I'm in the humour".

The greatest piece of news and the prevailing topic in our town is the marriage of your brother Ward to our friend Miss Lucia Johnston. It is wholly unnecessary for me to enumerate her good qualities to one who knows and esteems her as highly as does my good cousin Rowland. Perhaps you wish to know a little about the wedding and as I had the honour of standing bride-maid, I suppose I can give you just an account of the proceedings as you could wish. The marriage took place ~~on Thursday~~ opening the twenty-fifth of Inst in presence of the family of the Hon. Robert Johnston, and myself the only invited guest - both bride and groom looked extremely well, but as my correspondent happens to be a gentleman I will not undertake to describe the dress. We spent the evening very pleasantly and the next day Mr Howard Esq. and lady, W. Johnston Esq. and myself had a very pleasant sleighride but the weather was "Olees my heart how cold". We returned to Carmel and the day passed off in good style - Mrs Mitchell and I exerted ourselves to make all things lively. Saturday morning Cousin Ward and Mr Johnston came to P.H. called for entertainment at Cotters Hotel, sent for all the gentlemen of the town I believe, after having received the congratulations of friends the gentlemen returned to Judge Johnstons

Catskill  
January 31

Mr Howard No. 2 Howard

Livingston  
Virginia

25

Next day returned to P.H. - I could not get out like to be in our own town & this morning arrived your father and now all are engaged talking about death, health, & good things. But I will not give you all sorts of news - but we are all in good health - but we are sure to address you line to any connection here or what you see they are -

to dinner, and Sunday evening cousin Ward brought me home  
We have delightful sleighing and have had a long time; I  
have seen but few Post-coaches this winter. From New York to Albany  
the sleighing is fine and the stages have no use for wheels - A party  
of ladies and gentlemen from P.K. have been to Fishkill to dinner  
this winter and propositions have been made for another party  
to go to Somerstown. To the latter I have had an invitation but  
declined going - When the party went to Fishkill I was absent -  
Cousins Ward, Lucia and myself were on a jaunt to Poughkeeps-  
ie. Newburgh, Kent, and Carmel - If I had been here I should  
not have been invited I conclude, for with many of the con-  
cerns I am unacquainted. The beautiful Miss Mary Brooks  
was one of the company; the last evening Mr Raymond was her  
beau on the occasion - I have attended but one large party  
in this village this winter and that was at Dr Strangs on  
Christmas night. Catherine entertains her friends very  
much in the style of days that are past and has about  
as many admirers, as you know quite as much as I do of  
such matters. I will pass over the subject and write about  
some other good friends - I visit Judge Constant's family  
more frequently than any other in this place. The young ladies  
enjoy good health, and are as lively and engaging as ever  
Miss Emma is by some persons called very pretty - The  
other girls are as handsome as any others in our town you  
know - Besides the wedding I have mentioned -  
There is Mr George Sellick, who has taken Miss Fanny Thors  
to wife - Then as several pieces of news I would  
inform you that Mrs Seth Wait, Mrs Gilbert, Mrs William  
Powell, Mrs P. Raymond & & have each recently become  
mothers of fine sons and Mrs Nelson has another young  
daughter - Now you cannot say that I write no  
news, when I have been so particular to relate all  
the births, marriages I could think of. & I hope you will

be sufficiently thankful, but I beg you will not go far out  
of your way to express your gratitude for my kindness.  
But do tell have you become so enamoured of the Virgin-  
ians that you cannot spend a half hour in writing to me?  
or is my dear cousin brooding over his sorrows for the loss of his  
brother and lamenting his own lonely situation - in such a  
case you may think my nonsense untimely, - but be assured  
I respect your sorrows and would divert them if it were in my  
power - However I have written thus far and but quite mentioned  
your loss you might conclude that I had almost forgotten  
your afflictions, but I can assure you I often think of you and  
wonder your sorrows must be doubly grievous because you  
are so far removed from your friends - - - If I have commit-  
ted an error by writing this, I know your goodness will forgive  
it. - - - Wednesday Jan 21. Cousin Ward goes to Albany to day - at  
least he will start for that city with the stage -  
Last evening Mr Strang with Miss Hyatt Dr Pitt with Miss  
S. Constant & J. Strang with his cousin Cately Ann took tea at  
the Widow Hyatts in York town - - This evening the gentlemen  
of P.K. and Mount Pleasant unite to give a ball at Mr Lacoeks  
you know where that is better than I do - - Who is going  
from our town I know not - I have had no invitation  
and I am very sure I want none - Mr Ray tells me he  
has been solicited to join them, but I conclude he will  
not attend - Cousin Lucia desires me to give  
her love to you and I would send you a piece of cake if you were  
not so many hundred miles from us -  
Do you think you can find time to write me a letter  
this year - I promise you I will steal time to read it if it is  
necessary - - - Possibly you would be glad to hear something  
about the Politics of our country - In such a case I would refer you  
to some of the gentlemen - - This month I know there are several  
candidates for Sheriff's office in this county - You must wait  
patiently till the Contest is over and then I will try to tell you  
all I know - - - Adieu dear cousin - Believe me very affectionately  
and anxiously your friend - Carmel

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45 1/30/1821 *From:* Pamela [Phillips]

*To:* Mr Rowland B Howard

RBH-0e27

Peekskill

Lexington  
Virginia

*Source:* Bowdoin

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Peekskill Jan 30 1821

Would you not my dear cousin like to know what the Yorkers are about this winter? I have no mind to wait for an answer to my question, but feeling in a very communicative disposition shall proceed to tell you all the news and nonsense that enters my head while I am writing.

You no doubt have received my letter dated some time in December, long ago. Why you have not answered it I cannot imagine, and I suppose some young ladies, more precise than your cousin Pamela would wait a long, long time before they would write a second letter without an answer to the first. However taking all things into consideration I shall now, and ever, write "while I'm in the humour".

The greatest piece of news and the prevailing topic in our town is the marriage of your brother Ward to our friend Miss Lucia Johnston. It is wholly unnecessary for me to enumerate her good qualities to one who knows and esteems her as highly as does my good cousin Rowland. Perhaps you wish to know a little about the Wedding and as I had the honour of standing bride-maid, I suppose I can give as just an account of the proceedings as you could wish. The marriage took place on Thursday evening the twenty-fifth Inst in presence of the family of the Hon. Robert Johnston, and myself the only invited guest - both bride and groom looked extremely well, but as my correspondent happens to be a gentleman I will not undertake to describe the dresses. We spent the evening very pleasantly and the next day W B Howard Esq and lady, R. H Johnston Esq. and myself had a very pleasant sleighride, but the weather was "Bless my heart how cold". We returned to Carmel and the day passed off in good style.

Mrs Mitchell and I exerted ourselves to make all things lively. Saturday morning Cousin Ward and Mr Johnston came to P.K. called for entertainment at Cotters Hotel, sent for all the gentlemen of the town I believe, after having received the congratulations of friends the gentlemen returned to Judge Johnstons to dinner and Sunday evening cousin Ward brought me home.

We have delightful sleighing and have had for a long time; I have seen but few Post-coaches this winter. From New York to Albany the sleighing is fine and the stages have no use for wheels. A party of ladies and gentlemen from P.K. have been to Fish Kill to dinner this winter and propositions have been made for another party to go to Somerstown. To the latter I have had an invitation but declined going. When the party went to Fish Kill I was absent. Cousins Ward, Lucia and myself were on a jaunt to Poughkeepsie, Newburgh, Kent and Carmel. If I had been here I should not have been invited I conclude, for with many of the "concern" I am unacquainted. The beautiful Miss Mary Brown was one of the company, the last arrived Mr Raymond was her beau on the occasion. I have attended but one large party in the village this winter and that was at Dr Strangs on Christmas night. Catherine entertains her friends very much in the style of days that are past and has about as many admirers. As you know quite as much as I do of such matters I will pass over the subject and write about some other good friends. I visit Judge Constants family more frequently than any other in this place. The young ladies enjoy good health, and are as lively and engaging as ever. Miss Emma is by some persons called very pretty. The other girls are as handsome as any others in our town you know.

Besides the wedding I have mentioned, there is Mr George Sellack, who has taken Miss Fanny Thorn to wife. Then as several pieces of news, I would inform you that Mrs Seth Wait, Mrs Gilbert, Mrs William Lowell, Mrs P. Raymond & & have each recently become mothers of fine sons and Mrs Nelson has another young daughter. Now you cannot say that I write no news, when I have been so particular to relate all the births & marriages I could think of & I hope you will be sufficiently thankful, but I beg you will not go far out of your way to express your gratitude for my kindness.

But do tell have you become so enamoured of the Virginians that you cannot spend a half hour in writing to me? or is my dear cousin brooding over his sorrows for the loss of his brother and lamenting his own lonely situation - in such a case you may think my nonsense untimely - but be assured I respect your sorrows and would divert them if it were in my power, however as I have written thus far and but mentioned your loss you might conclude that I had almost forgotten your affliction but I can assure you I often think of you and consider your sorrows must be doubly grievous because you are so far removed from your friends. If I have committed

an error by writing this, I know your goodness will forgive it.

Wednesday Jan 31.

Cousin Ward goes to Albany today - at least, he will start for that city with the stage.

Last evening J.H. Strang with Miss C. Hyatt Dr Hoit with Miss L. Constant & J Strang with his cousin Caty Ann took tea at the widow Hyatts in Yorktown. This evening the gentlemen of P.K. and Mount Pleasant unite to give a ball at Mr Lacoeks, you know where that is better than I do. Who is going from our town I know not. I have had no invitation and I am very sure I want none. Mr Pray tells me he has been solicited to join them, but I conclude he will not attend. Cousin Lucia desired me to give her love to you and I would send you a piece of cake if you were not so many hundred miles from us.

Do you think you can find time to write me a letter this year. I promise you I will steal time to read it if it is necessary. Possibly you would be glad to hear something about the Politics of our country. In such a case I must refer you to some of the gentlemen. This much I know there are several candidates for Sherriffs office in this country. You must wait patiently till the Contest is over and then I will try to tell you all I know.

Adieu dear cousin. Believe me very affectionately and sincerely your friend.

Pamela [Phillips]

Wednesday afternoon. Would you not like to be in our <midst> cousin R. This morning arrived your father and now all are engaged talking about Leeds, Boston, Newburg, Kent, Peekskill and friends of all sorts and sizes. Our friends in Maine are in good health, but no one saw fit to address one line to any connexions here. Oh what yankees they are.

[Envelope]

Peekskill

January 31

[Paid] 25

Mr Rowland B Howard

Lexington

Virginia

rode in the carriage with Everett about one hundred miles & previous to that he went on to Alabama & happened to fall into Calyer's company & traveled with him some distance & in the time he left Pennis with the same man that Calyer ~~states~~ <sup>from Everett</sup> he did, which proves that ~~Calyer~~ <sup>Calyer</sup> told the truth

50  
Paid  
Capt. Seth Curran  
Wayne,  
Pensacola, Fla.

94 P M has not the liberty  
to send in letters therefore  
I shall not this journey

Tell Rowland to write me when he receives this all the news I know not whether there is a Post office in Leeds yet I shall there fore direct my letter to Wayne Pleas give my love to Rowland Franklin & my dear sisters with their husbands Pittman & wife Uncle Barney family & all all all. Best wishes that my love for Parents has increased rather than abated so farewell for the present W. Rowland

Yipowatte Posttown Co Va

Dear Parents I received Brother Rowland's letter the 14 of October with no little satisfaction but having just directed a number of letters to the neighbourhood of home I did not answer it I thought I directed my letters to Friends, But alas I have been wonderfully disapointed six months since I left Leeds & not but one letter have I received from Newryland, There is Jason has he forgotten me? who would have thought it, Jeremiah Solthrop & others whom I have written to, but so it is I will wait no longer for their answers for I know my Parents are anxious to hear from their unworthy Son I have been in perfect health ever since I left home, I have to inform you that I was some what ~~to~~ unfortunate in getting in to buisness in Lexington & also was disapointed at other places, But now thank heaven! I am in buisness which is more agreeable, instructive, & profitable although my salary is not very great yet it is sufficient we fore active buisness -

When I came to Lexington I was flattered  
by the people that I should get a prof-  
fessional school there in the fall  
if I would wait I had then an offer  
offer of 400 Dollars per year in Pendle-  
ton but did not expect thinking to do  
as well or better in Lexington  
But there was a young gentleman  
whose parents resided in Town, were  
people of a good deal of influence being  
very respectable though rather poor  
of course the people in town wished  
to do all for the young <sup>man</sup> they could  
therefore I did not succeed after waiting  
three months. There was a gentleman  
in this place who was in great want  
of a young man & I being recommended <sup>him</sup>  
by a gentleman in Lexington he sent  
for me I came on immediately in the  
stage (it being 40 miles) & engaged with  
him for one year. My business is mostly  
writing & riding. The man whom I live  
with is George Barkus formerly from Connecticut  
but he being Post Master has made me his  
Deputy which business takes the most of my

time we have mail that arrives & departs  
from this place once or twice every day. Mr.  
Barkus has one of the stage routes on the  
United States Line & on other on the Western  
Line. He is said to keep one of the best public  
houses in Virginia. He has a good deal of business  
in the country which I have to attend to I  
don't know but I shall have to go to Caroline  
next week to attend to a lawsuit depending  
there he has a son that assists him in  
the office when I am absent, I hope you  
will not be uneasy about me as it is my  
determination to be faithful in whatever  
business I undertake. Perhaps you may  
think that a public house is not suitable  
for a young man like me. But you will  
depart. It I never shall forget the  
counsel of my Parents.

I am much better pleased with the  
society here than in Lexington. The people  
are very friendly & familiar. This town is  
about the same size of Lexington but the  
business done here far exceeds especially  
in the spring seasons being situated near  
the sweet, hot, warm, white sulphur,  
red sulphur, & salt sulphur springs, all  
of which are resorted to by great numbers  
in the summer seasons. There is not one quarter  
of the people that attend the springs for their  
health but merely for amusement.  
I by chance came across a young gentleman in  
Lexington from Georgia he informed me that he

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46 1/5/1822

*From:* VR Howard

*To:* Capt Seth Howard

RBH-0e28

Fincastle Bottetourt Co  
Va

Wayne  
Kennebec Co Maine

*Source:* Bowdoin

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Fincastle Bottetourt Co Va

Dear Parents

I received Brother Rowlands letter the 15 of October with no little satisfaction but having just directed a number of letters to the neighbourhood of home, I did not answer it. I thought I directed my letters to Friends, But alas I have been wonderfully disapointed six monts since I left Leeds & not but one letter have I received from <Nurseryland>. There is Jason has he forgotten me? who would have thought it, Jeremiah Lothrop & others whom I have written to, but so it is. I will wait no longer for their answers, for I know my Parents are anxious to hear from their unworthy Son. I have been in perfect health ever since I left home. I have to inform you that I was some what unfortunate in geting in to buisness in Lexington & also was disapointed at other places. But now thank heaven! I am in business which is more agreeable, instructive, & <Popelar> although my salary is not very grate yet It is preparing me for active business.

When I came to Lexington I was flattered by the people that I should get a profitable school there in the fall & if I would wait I had then an offer of 400 Doll per year in Pendleton but did not except thinking to do as well or better in Lexington. But there was a young gentleman whose Parents resided in Town, were People of a good deal of influence being very respectable though rather poor. Of course the people in town wished to do all for the young man they could. Therefore I did not succeed after waiting three monts.

There was a Gentleman in this place who was in great want of a young man & I being recommented to him by a Gentleman in Lexington he sent for me. I came on immediately in the stage (it being 40 miles) & engaged with him for one year. My buisness is mostly writing and riding. The man whom I live with is George Backus formely from Connecticut. He being Post Master has made me <his> Dept which buisness takes the most of my time. We have mails that arives & departs from this place once or twice every day. Mr Backus has one of the stage routs on the United States Line & an other on the Western Line. He is said to keep one of the best public houses in Virginia. He gas a good deal of buisness in the country which I have to attend to. I don't know but I shall have to go to Carolina next week to attend to a Law suit <depending> there. He has a Son that assists him in the office when I am absent. I hope you will not be uneasy about me as it is my determination to be faithful in whatever buisness I undertake. Perhaps you thot that a Public House is not suitable for <a young> man like me. But you <> I never shall forget the counsel of my Parents.

I am much better pleased with the society here than in Lexington. The People are very friendly & familiar. This Town is about the same size of Lexington but the buisness done here far exceeds especially in the spring seasons being situated nere the sweet, hot, warm, white sulpher, read sulpher, & salt sulpher Springs, all of which are resorted to by great numbers in the sumer seasons. There is not one quantum of the People that attend the Springs for their health, but merely for amusement. I by chance came accrost a young Gentleman in Lexington from Georgia. He informed me that he rode in the Carriage with Everet about one hundred miles & previous to that he went on to Alabama & hapened to fall into Colyers company & traveled with him some distance & in the time he left <Pioniso> with the <same> man that Colyer states he did for Everet which proves that Colyer told the truth.

Tel Rowland to write me when he receives this all the news. I know not whether there is a Post Office in Leeds yet. I shall there fore direct my letter to Wayne. Please give my love to Rowland Franklin & my Dear sisters with with their husbands & Stillman & wife Uncle Barney family & all all, all. Rest ashured that my love for Parents has incresed rather than abaited so farewell for the present.

VR Howard [Valentine Rathburn Howard]

Dep PM has not the liberty to Frank letters. Therefore I shall mail this. Yours &c

[Envelope]  
Fincastle, Va  
5 Jan 1822

Paid 25  
Capt Seth Howard  
Wayne  
Kennebec Co Maine



Sir,

Portland January 5th 1822

It is my pleasure to inform you of the proceedings of the Legislature, thus far, in order to which I enclose you the Argus, in which is contained the Governor's message and the principal business which has occurred in both branches of the Legislature. It cannot be expected that much business could be transacted within this period; but having got organized and the joint and Standing Committees chosen; the probability is, that the session will be brought to a speedy and happy termination.

As it respects myself I enjoy my health remarkably well and should feel to enjoy myself very well if I could know my little Family and friends at home were in health. This is, really a Theatre, which exhibits to the mind, a great source of information; not only in the science of Politics, but in the various phenomena of human Nature. Being in the room where there is a number conversing upon various topics I have not an opportunity to say much, but will observe to you that I together, with a great number of the other Representatives have a billet from the Governor to assemble to his house to-morrow evening to take tea &c. You will also observe upon viewing the Standing Committees, that I am on the Committee of Bills

of the third reading. Please to address this  
to Cecilia P. Stillman and to respond  
ever of our other <sup>friends</sup> that you think proper, and  
I must implore your kind protection  
of my little Family during my absence  
from yours affectionately.

To Rowland B. Howard Thomas W. Bridgman

N. B. Please to write to me the first of the  
- month, being anxious to hear what news  
from home

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47 1/8/1822

*From:* Thomas W.  
Bridgham  
Portland

*To:* Rowland B. Howard

RBH-0e29a

*Source:* Bowdoin

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Portland January 8th 1822

Sir,

It is my pleasure to inform you of the proceedings of the Legislature, thus far, in order to which I enclose you the Argus, in which is contained the Governor's message and the principle business which has occurred in both branches of the Legislature. It cannot be expected that much business could be transacted within this period; but having got organized and the Joint and Standing Committees chosen, the probability is, that the session will be brought to a speedy and happy termination.

As it respects myself I enjoy my health remarkably well and should feel to enjoy myself very well if I could know my little Family and friends at home were in health. This is, really a Theatre which exhibits, to the mind, a great source of information; not only in the science of Politics, but in the various <Takeromines> of human nature. Being in the room where there is a number <wabersing> upon various topics. I have not an opportunity to say much, but will observe to you that I together, with a great number of the other Representatives have a billet from the Governor to assemble to his house to-morrow evening to take tea &c. you will also observe upon viewing the standing Committes, that I am on the Committe of bills of the third reading.

Please to address this to Aurelia, Pa, Stillman and to whom so ever of our other friends that you think proper, and I must implore your kind protection of my little Family during my absence.

From yours affectionately,  
Thomas W. Bridgham

To Rowland B. Howard

N.B. Please to write to me the first opportunity, being anxious to hear what news from home.

Topsam Feb 11. 1822.

Dear Friend,

According to my engagement I called and enquired concerning the school as soon as I arrived in town, but the agent had not returned from Portland and the district had done nothing. I have just waited on Esq. Purvinton, who arrived here Saturday. he says he wishes for you to keep the school, and will give seventeen dollars per month, for six months, he thinks. But while at Portland he talked with a Mr. Griffin, and give him some encouragement before he heard you wished to keep it, and says he must hear from him before he can give you a certain answer. The probability, however, is you will have the school as I find a number very earnest for it. If you receive no word to the contrary they wish you to begin in two weeks from to-day, at which time I shall expect to see you—

My sister writes me very melancholly news, and I am now quite sad in heart and dejected in spirits. The loss of our friend, Mr. Lane, will be severely felt by his relatives and acquaintances—By what I hear

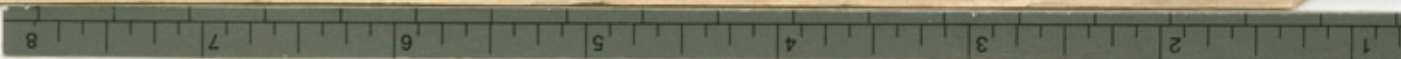
to, my Grandmother is probably no more -  
I however have been for the most part  
cheerful since I arrived. I recollect with  
pleasure our fine stay-rides, and think  
our variety of amusements preferable to  
the dull monotony of study. Robinson fre-  
quently talks about his time, and the de-  
lightful acquaintances he formed, and  
now hear him but wish they had had  
the good fortune to visit Leeds. The town  
has become under favorable auspices,  
students have mostly returned and begun  
their studies with vigour - I am now  
writing at home the best I can and  
it is so dark I can hardly see what  
letters I make and see no prospect  
of getting more light, so you must  
excuse my breaking off abruptly,

Your sincere friend,  
O. S.

P. S.

If you see Quince remember me  
to her, and tell her I have not got a show  
yet, but hope to soon - Give my respects  
to Ann to the Dr. & Mrs. Bridgman - tell the  
Dr. I should be happy to receive a line  
from him - V. S.

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Mr. Sturton of B. Thruaid  
To care of Mr. Sturton.

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48 2/11/1822 *From:* [Ensign] Otis

*To:* Rowland B. Howard

RBH-0e29b

Topsham

*Source:* Bowdoin

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Topsham Feby 11 1822

Dear Friend,

According to my engagement I called and enquired concerning the school as soon as I arrived in town, but the agent had not returned from Portland and the district had done nothing. I have just waited on Esq Buvington, who arrived here Saturday. He says he wishes you to keep the shool, and will give seventeen dollars per month, for six months, he thinks. But while at Portland he talked with a Mr Griffin, and give him some encouragement before he heard you wished to keep it, and says he must hear from him before he can give you a certain answer. The probability, however, is you will have the school as I find a number very earnest for it. If you receive no word to the contrary they wish you ot begin in two weeks from to-day at which time I shall expect to see you.

My sister write me very melancholly news and I am now quite sad in heart and dejected in spirits. The loss of our friend, Mr Lane, will be severly felt by his relatives and acquaintances. By what I hear to, my Grandmother is probably no more. I however have been for the most part cheerful since I arrived. I recollect with pleasure our fine slay-rides, and think our variety of amusements peferable to the dull monotony of study. Robinson frequently talks about his tour, and the delightful acquaintances he formed, and none hear him but wish they had had the good fortunes to visit Leeds. The term has begun under favorable auspices, students have mostly returned and began their studies with vigour. I am now writing at Mame Tucker's tavern and it is so dark I can hardly see what letters I make and see no prospect of getting more light, so you must excuse my breaking off abrutly,

Your Sincere friend,  
Otis

P.S. If you see Cinthia remember me to her, and tell her I have not gone eastward yet, but hope to soon. Give my respects to Ann to the Dr & Mrs Bridgham. Tell the Dr I should be hapy to receive a line from him.



moreover that I am resolved not to intrude on her domestic  
affairs so long as she cannot spare a few moments to  
write to me. May every blessing attend her and every  
one connected with her (you see I bring myself in) is the  
sincere wish of your sincere friend and very  
affectionate cousin  
Pamela.

DS

Wm T Dwyer  
July 18

Mrs Rowland B. Howard

Leeds

Given July 29<sup>th</sup> forwarded M.M.

Newburgh July 1822

My Dear Cousin

On my return from the City where  
I have spent three or four weeks this summer. I was  
greeted with a letter from you, which circumstance  
was so very unexpected that I could hardly realize it,  
a thought occurred that it might be one of ancient  
date that had strayed from my cabinet, but on  
closer inspection I found that you had once more found  
a pen and a disposition for addressing me. Enough said  
on that subject. I have so much to tell you, and have  
forgotten so much that I would be glad to tell you  
that you must not be surprised to find this scrawl  
almost incomprehensible. No Park Hill was the theatre  
when we have played our parts so often. I will en-  
deavour to give you a little insight to their scenes -  
And as your brother's dwelling stands nearly at the  
head of the town I will first tell you of his family.  
Undoubtedly you have heard of Lucia's extreme illness  
and loss of her son in Feb. last. but as you are all  
so very backward in writing I conclude you do not know  
that she is now in very ill health. While I was in  
town she and cousin Ward came down and I accom-

panied them to Bath and Rockaway on Long Island. cousin  
Lucia appeared to receive no benefit from her jaunt, but  
if I had continued bathing in the Atlantic a few weeks  
I think I should have felt much better than I do now -  
not that <sup>I am</sup> sick in the least - but I am afflicted with  
most dreadful fits of larynx - You would be astonished  
to see the attraction in your cousin Sam. and you will  
hardly credit what I am about to tell you - but "it is  
a fact" - notwithstanding Lucia has been ill so much, and  
is now so weak that she cannot walk three times the  
length of the house without great exertions, she is much  
larger every way and <sup>has</sup> more flesh upon her than ever  
I had. and "vice versa" with me. I am just about nothing  
I am so very thin - something like a shadow of the cousin  
you once knew. - Doct. Hoyt and Susan Crisstant have  
been married about two months. and it is reported that  
James Nelson and Camilla Hyatt, think of matrimony,  
as does also Mr Van de Water, a book binder, with Miss  
Kate Ann. I hope you feel no jealous symptoms arising  
from the last mentioned circumstance - if you do I  
beg of you to pacify yourself as soon as possible for it  
would be a sad thing for you to visit Hoboken with  
the gentleman when you are on the way south. - Miss  
entire nous, I do not think Kate will be married very  
soon - and this Mr Van. has been acquainted with  
her nearly a year so I think her union with him is  
very doubtful.

Mr James Given died while I was in New York, his remains  
were carried to P. R. to be interred. It is said that he left  
property to the amount of thirty thousand dollars which is  
a nice little sum if rightly managed. His sons are much  
the same as when you knew them. -

On Monday next there is to be a great parade at  
Goshen. The bones of heroes who were slain at the battle  
of Minisink and which have lain bleaching on the field  
forty three years, have lately been collected and are to  
be buried on that day. Every body is going to witness  
the ceremony, all societies, civil and military are  
invited to assist on the occasion. a battalion of Cadets  
is going up and - but I cannot tell you one  
hundredth part of the regulations and orders on this  
sheet of paper.

Cousin Patie has been with us nearly two months  
she was quite out of health when she came, nor is she  
now perfectly well. - Our family remains in <sup>sub.</sup> health  
as it always did. I sometimes think Papa is better  
and then again it seems almost impossible for him  
to exist many hours. Thus are we driven about with  
hopes and fears. - Cousin Benjamin practices with Doct  
Gidney and boards with us. I think the bids fair to make  
a very useful member of society. - Soaph is yet in Red Hook. The  
bar has so many attractions that he had when I last  
saw him determined to be a lawyer. - He is preparing to  
enter Mr Nelson's office this fall.

The family including cousins join me in love to you and  
all friends. Be kind enough to tell Lucia that my message  
is very good and she is in debt to me for two or three letters.

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49 7/19/1822 *From:* Pamela [Phillips]

*To:* Mr Rowland B Howard

RBH-0e30

Newburgh

Leeds  
Maine

*Source:* Bowdoin

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Newburgh July 19th 1822

My Dear Cousin

On my return from the City where I have spent three or four weeks this summer, I was greeted with a letter from you, which circumstance was so very unexpected that I could hardly realize it. A thought occurred that it might be one of ancient date that had strayed from my cabinet, but on closer inspection I found that you had once more found a pen and a disposition for addressing me. Enough said on that subject.

I have so much to tell you, and have forgotten so much that I would be glad to tell you that you must not be surprised to find this scrawl almost incomprehensible. As Peekskill was the theatre where we have played our parts so often I will endeavour to give you a little insight to their scenes. And as your brother's dwelling stands nearly at the head of the town I will first tell you of his family. Undoubtedly you have heard of Lucia's extreme illness and loss of her son in Feb last but as you are all so very backward in writing I conclude you do not know that she is now in very ill health. While I was in town she and cousin Ward came down, and I accompanied them to Bath and Rockaway on Long Island. Cousin Lucia appeared to receive no benefit from her jaunt, but if I had continued bathing in the Atlantic a few weeks I think I should have felt much better than I do now, not that I am sick in the least, but I am afflicted with most dreadful fits of laziness. You would be astonished to see the alteration in your cousin Pam, and you will hardly credit what I am about to tell you, but "it is a fact", notwithstanding Lucia has been ill so much and is now so weak that she cannot walk three times the length of the house without great exertion. She is much larger every way and has more flesh upon her than ever I had, and "vice versa" with me. I am just about nothing. I am so very thin - something like a shadow of the cousin you once knew.

Doct Hoyt and Susan Constant have been married about two months and it is asserted that James Nelson and Cammilla Hyatt, think of matrimony, as does also Mr Van de Water, a book binder, with Miss Kate Ann. I hope you feel no jealous symptoms arising from the last mentioned circumstance. If you do I beg of you to pacify yourself as soon as possible for it would be a sad thing for you to visit Hoboken with the gentleman when you are on the way south. Mais entre nous, I do not think Kate will be married very soon, and this Mr Van, has been acquainted with her nearly a year so I think her union with him is very doubtful.

Mr James <Driven> died while I was in New York, His remains were carried to P.K. to be interred. It is said that he left property to the amount of thirty thousand dollars which is a nice little sum if rightly managed. His sons are much the same as when you knew them.

On Monday next there is to be a great parade at Goshen. The bones of heros who were slain at the battle of Minisink and which have lain bleaching on the field forty three years, have lately been collected and are to be buried on that day. Every body is going to witness the ceremony, all societies, civil and military are invited to assist on the occasion. A battalion of Cadets is going up and - but I cannot tell you one hundredth part of the regulations and orders on this sheet of paper.

Cousin Patia has been with us nearly two months. She was quite out of health when she came, nor is she now perfectly well. Our family remains in such health as it always did. I sometimes think Papa is better and then again it seems almost impossible for him to exist many hours. Thus are we driven about with hopes and fears. Cousin Benjamin practises with Doct Gidney and boards with us. I think he bids fair to make a very useful member of society. Joseph is yet in Red Hook. The bar has so many attractions that he had when I last saw him determined to be a lawyer. He is preparing to enter Mr Nelson's office this fall.

The family including cousins join me in love to you and all friends. Be kind enough to tell Lucretia that my memory is very good and she is in debt to me for two or three letters. Moreover that I am resolved not to intrude on her domestic affairs so long as she cannot spare a few moments to write to me. May every blessing attend her and every one connected with her (you see I bring myself in) is the fervent wish of your sincere friend and very

affectionate cousin  
Pamela

[Envelope]  
Newburgh  
July 18  
[Postage] 25  
Mr Rowland B Howard  
Leeds  
Maine  
July 29th forwarded Greene