& Ohristiansbury Va gon 26 Dearly Belower Sis- who could result Such a comment or the following? Sit you Self down & ouswen this amode ately; Sound thout sesten of suchon I am proud. It is Lucretion Des Lucretion hors condegender to bless me with a long communication. Meony Six Mouths how passed with not a word from home. whereven I walle think of my relation This consolation burst on my whind that their anxions was not so great as mine Selowed the least of any bround of the form But some the scription of your letters. an almost competter to believe I was January manswering m at all But to my undiscribeable sotist I huns blefsed at last. But Oh it informed ax the Seath of our Balowed Sister! Though mot so lead as, I expected yet it is enough did I think when & Some amounts of the requiry mortality of that country that dother own Brother on Sister would Surviva the Demon Hay obath suill come 8 Jam resine to and from or or seesthe down I shoul meet my relations in thos But heaven knows when thost day will some Rehaps not for years But live! bin shot only des or Duty but with valuntory supportions, But a Resson of my aye & hois got the better of some of our Leed's Boys

Then is cousin Joson & Good & others conmini to marina with a satisfier minimo they get no business & one a front of starvenry & back they come They will some down find that the knowled -ge of human mortune is not so easely acq, this country but's never shall invite him Defrace total sport that I was always Possessed of Rortettede & my mext qualification you have after accessed me of not possesin Thou and my constant companion 3 neven with my mind was, & ever will be my Howdely one shorning this winten hors prese - nter the reflections of her luminoury withou half of his could consumed. In the mi -olle of the day when my fellow students one at the statell heaving the Mus & take a glass of toddy Jaminatived room lestering to the rectations of five on Six dutiful by Rowland my brother? yes: has he answered my letters? no: What is the reason? why heis it love: with whom? For god's Sake Song nomone! Thunden Struck Shine enoug I, our fell in love! But it was with in Angel. Low when I sow wife in your letter with so money of clambition faround it an argreeable Septetion struck my mind Thenking that Me with three letters would luho knows but fortune will preserve her for Bathlean on some future day loute bothink so! I done not: Then I shall even remain in one respect as I now one

If you can understand me well Is not dans the suret At outful distorne I must entertain my greek; But still in pain but dare not ask neligh. This too much my superion to comply, And too too fait to let my profrion die. I'll languish in Seiset & with dumb surpris Drukthe resistles sorrows that off arise. Portitude & smay betray my self ion Mong Be Songs Rathbur : I shall before works af that beautiful Missoure that turnlites sin try through the question worte. 1 I out determined if possible to attend the medical lectures of Brusingwick if not Philadelphia on Mewyork -I have read of my cal thous outhors. Mung se Morteria Medi tues longe volumes, two Outhors or ateny & Hours Chemistry & a fin Bofsesed of our angel 11/2 en oun Porrents to be as easy as possible about me for If I can get through with my studies as I had ought I am Safe, I ma home to get the last of a smallsum of money to attend the lectures But Sapert it west from any of my relation but som more able patron - I git throughwithout That ten Dollar uniter states Bill I Sehrt you I sent a negro boy to the office with the letter & he lays he pat it in the letter box on the out side of the house unmotested I have impormed his master of it who he does not tell the truth he still continue

tetter & I can hordely think myself that he is quilty . I wish you risult informe one if the letter was marked double postorge if it was he is certainty should be found with four fold intrest on Remember me to Mm Leadten & his that tittle boy of yours for me. . There Papa & Mamo I think of them as when as it is possible for them to think Drive any love to all . Doct Rurelia Chile ten our Brothers, Franklin & Borolome pertuntones Stillmon & formiles Esy I's to forme & amuch abliege soun affectiona P.S. I find a friend in Mr Brownen to Rowson formety of Paris Me. Who is Practices Low in this Co**50** 1/26/1823

From: VRH [Valentine

Rathburn Howard]

RBH-0e31

Christiansburg Va

Source: Bowdoin

To: Mrs Lucretia P. Leadbetter

Wayne

State of Maine

Christiansburg Va Jan 26 1823

Dearly Beloved Sir

Who could resist such a command as the following? Sit yourself down & anser this immediately, says that Sister of whom I am proud. It is Lucretia, Yes Lucretia has condescended to bless me with a long communication. Nearly six months had passed with not a word from home.

Whenever I would think of my relations, this consolation burst on my mind that their anxiety was not so great as mine. For I had always had an idea that I was beloved the least of any branch of the family. But since the reception of your letter I am almost compelled to believe I was mistaken.

I gave up the idea of your answering my letter at all. But to my undiservabe satisfaction I was blessed at last. But Oh it informed of the death of our Beloved Sister! Though not so bad as I expected, yet it is enough. Little did I think when I saw accounts of the raging mortality of that country that either our Brother or Sister would survive the Demon.

Alas death will com & I am resined to any of Gods desires. Off times with pleasure I anticipate the day I shall meet my relatives in that country. But heaven knows when that day will come. Perhaps not for years But live! live! untill I come. Yes I must see my Parents once more. I love them indeed I love! not only as a duty but with voluntary affections. But a person of my age & situation requires fortitude which I never <> to banish childish dependencies which has got the better of some of our Leeds Boys. There is cousin Jason J Gould & others can go to Boston City or some big town & return to Mama with a satisfied mind. They get no business & are afraid of starveing & back they come. They will some day find that the knowledge of human nature is not so easily acquired. Jason might have done well in this country but I never shall invite him again.

I have told you that I was always possessed of fortitude & my next qualification you have often accused me of not possessing. But you were rong. Industry. Yes Industry. Thou art my constant companion I never was fond of labouring with my Body but with my mind was & ever will be my blissful employment.

Hardely one Morning this winter has presented the reflections of her luminarry without finding Rathburn seated in his study with half of his candle consumed. In the middle of the day when my fellow students are at the hotel hearing the news & taking a glass of toddy. I am in a retired room room listening to the recitations of five or six dutiful little children.

Is Rowland my brother? Yes: has he answered my letters? No: what is the reason? Why he is in love: with whom? For God's sake say no more! (Thunder struck, Shine enough) I—, once fell in love! But it was with an Angel. And when I saw wife in your letter with so many exclamations around it an agreeable question struck my mind. Thinking that M—with three letters would follow, but alas, what a contrast! Who knows but fortune will preserve her for Rathburn on some future day. Could I think so! I dare not: Then I shall ever remain in one respect as I now am.

If you can understand me, well. If not I am the only one that knows the secret. At awful distance I must entertain my grief. But still in pain but dare not ask relief. And too too fain to let my I'll languish in secret & with dumb surprise. But no more: I said I was possessed of fortitude & I may betray my self. May Be says Rathburn: I shall before many years be situated on the banks of that beautiful Missouri that tumbles through the Western World.

I am determined if possible to attend the medical lectures at Brunswick if not Philadelphia or New York. I have read of medical authors. Murry & Materia Med <[torn page]> two large volumes, two authors on <anatomy> & Daveys Chemistry. I have <> Minutely. <> name is Doct. Alexander <> a fine man & possessed of <>.

Tell our Parents to be as easy as possible about me for if I can get through with my studies as I had ought I am

safe. I may have to get the loan of a small sum of money to attend the lectures. But I expect it not from any of my relation but some more able patron. I may get throug without. God only knows what has become of that ten Dollar United Sates Bill I sent you. I sent a Negro boy to the office with the letter & he says he put it in the letter box on the out side of the house unmolested. I have informed his master of it who has threatened to whip him to death if he oes not tell the truth. He still continues to deny that he took the money from the letter & I can hardely think myself that he is guilty. I wish you would inform me if the letter was marked double postage. If it was he is certainly innocent. I have not the money by me now or I would send it in this letter but you should be paid with four fold interest.

Remember me to Mr Leadbter & kiss that little boy of yours for me. Tell Papa & Mama I think of them as much as it is possible for them to think of Rathburn. Give my love to all. Doct, Aurelia children our brothers Franklin & Rowland particularly Stillman & family Esq L's family throughout & kiss one
 branch> at it for me & much oblige your affectionate & dutiful Brother VBH

P.S. I find a friend in Mr Crowden F Roweson family of Paris Me. Who is Practicing Law in this Country.

I am in tolerable health this winter except now & then a bad cold the weather being so changeable. It is impossible to prevent it. I was blesed last night & took a <First page sideways writing too faint.>

[Envelope]
Montgomery Co
1st Feb
[Postage] 25
Mrs Lucretia P. Leadbetter
Wayne
State of Maine

off my self, I have the General the other day he New Orleans August 27 A1823 duly he land get mong to go was the lake, poor fellow Dear din I have the pleasure to inform your I by the honeyou view this your wile have but the still enjoy as great health as when you left - I futigues of your Journey & I hope receiving the rech have got snowed in to my new house, where I ecound you to gently areset from a long & finetracked an very pleasently betweeter, my room licens abrene from are that is deas to you in life, Oh! that high from the ground I enjoy the lexury of to huppy meeting you cannot find language to tell much to be wished for in this locunty, a free at me mitter were & best I know it all me bosom Circulation of There air, Since you left here we Suine of faults the free let land of have had doing pretty warm duy, The Shemonder I think however her note ranged higher than acrety fow, but for the most part the weather has her remarkably fine. The gullow fever has once more made its appearance the first report from to the second of the the board of health three days dince, is before Two months are at an end the probibility or that Thousand will brewere that old & better hack to the Levernip. The Mug'r Carriage I see begin to be in motion is no docalet before the Leavon is expired hundreds will take their last airing in this cells brated very hack our commun. - mention with waiteher is completely stoped, by a grearingtime being established for league to the wast, where we health office is Muteried & every pirron who share pap there without finite deporting beinnelf is subject to a fine of one Thousand Hollen besides impresonment. From your must not peck to bring Mr Dray along with all reports the Lower of watches closs not contain your & then I shall hold you to your promise Ithente if the knew the half your duffer in the absence the one quarter of its usual population meanly are would not hertale as moment, you be I have that are not dock & cloud Than fled to the no more paper or I would write a month, do not buntings. This is well unfileasent news, that Songet to bal acc to any Jarents & free do that I could In the Shay is children Jour faces I Hound ift fated city buffered byond account in the

will day now, the fever undoubtedly her originated There. I remain as when you left our head & lear in hurings, There is hardly a day since that you could evand through my fernan without benging your had, ony men Seem to stand it remarkely well, Some of Them now Is then sich a lette, but oweing more I presume to infrudence than any other occure, Tholons is were & Juff as ever, but poor Whitenen is compleatly done own, about three weeks ago he & over black boy Jac, was earnying off a ladle of Bon It from some sauce or other they let it fall & Minchman got both his feet burned, they are howeve getting better & by the exertine of a lought of branden legs hat even mountage to go about the house, best I close thent he will ever danc to wenter into the Hounday again, I was standing new Who ludle Il escaped with a very slight being but had it taken another direction it might have injured me in a very tender point I should judge at least 2 lo hot non went into my boson & part week at the bottom of my partiloons, your know how I am direct while att work, my thirt coller open & parteloon wheel There is lift of them very loose, I mean was to poor in packet in my life long clother are all worm out the I have not time not money to been new onesbut I have 1400 hunds of glod each & a protty good Hoelo of how besides as great meny other little wiel. - Macks that no brace been calele purchase, this is a fine elementration that indentry & proseverience will knowplish boarder, I believe you never knew The Capotal we commend on I have smiled often to myself when I have reflected on it; Whitmans, expense " Capalate Hoch win this Migre that lost him seven

Thurdred daller, from the sale of him at auction he expected to receliere fuces or fine Heredred this was be go for his Share Holms had a Law suit from which he expected to recover forces Hundred. dollar, this war to go for his shawe, poor File Jarlick, gow know his empetal, this was as great prospect, poor ganties, no among, & no Gracines, but there was something better than are their a Thursugh convection in my saw mind that the thing would beced, is a determend resolution to carry it ante offeration at all huserd, I done know here my combetion surrice me a little les for, as et I was the course no docett of my late suchness, but thank god I were never in hatter health than at present, finally the amount of lufictal actuly inver--ted was simply their it took fifty dollar out of the commen Hack to hey the Doit, histo ? Duy the negro, tother line law suit was heet off & the day of yearly ment show long that will be you Lowyers hest know, However it anatters not proces the waks we have everted if a fair balantion was taken of them, would uncount & at least light Thousand Dollar & we have mough on Books that is great to free, our debts This is not to eache tuking every thing into consider cration, but what is are This to she, sometimes of their anyally the begist fool in the world to make a slave of enjuely in their way, my prospects as it. respect by injugment in left and compliable Lusted, for little Lacera remains in quad healt In but I think much theirer than when you left. I am very anxies about her health, if The should not live I believe I should frings

51 8/27/1823 *From:* Seth Howard *To:* J. R. R. Pray Esq

RBH-0e32 New Orleans Livermore

Source: Bowdoin County of Oxford State of Maine

New Orleans August 27th, 1823

Dear Sir

I have the pleasure to inform you I still enjoy as good health as when you left. I have got moved in to my new house, where I am very pleasantly situated, my room being high from the ground. I enjoy the luxury of so much to be wished for in this country, a free circulation of fresh air. Since you left here, we have had some pretty warm days. The thermometer I think however has not ranged higher than ninety four, but for the most part the weather has been remarkably fine.

The yellow fever has once more made its appearance. The first report from the board of health three days since, & before two months are at an end, the probability is that thousands will traverse that old & beaten track to the Swamp. The May'rs Carriages I see begin to be in motion & no doubt before the Season is expired hundreds will take their last airing in this cellibrated <neighade>. Our communication with Natchez is compleatly stoped, by a quaringtine being established four leagues past the coast, where a health officer is stationed, & every person who shall pass there without first reporting himself is subject to a fine of one thousand Dollars besides imprisonment. From all reports the Town of Natchez does not contain one quarter of its usual population. Nearly all that are not sick & dead have fled to the Country. This is really unpleasant news, that ill fated city suffered beyond account in the year 1817. I don't know what contagionists will say now, the fever undoubtedly has originated there.

I remain as when you left over head & ears in business. There is hardly a day since that you could crawl through my furnace without singing your hair. My men seem to stand it remarkably well. Some of them now & then sick a little, but oweing more I presume to imprudence than any other cause.

Holms is well & happy as ever, but poor Whitman is completely done over. About three weeks ago he & our black boy Joe, was carrying off a ladle of iron & from some cause or other they let it fall & Whitman got both his feet burned. They are however geting better & by the assistance of a couple of wooden legs he can manage to go about the house, but I don't think he will ever dare to venture into the Foundry again. I was standing near the ladle & escaped with a very slight burn, but had it taken another direction it might have injured me in a very tender point. I should judge at least 2 lbs hot iron went into my bosom & past out at the bottom of my panteloons. You know how I am drest while at work, my shirt collar open & panteloons what there is left of them very loose.

I seem ever so poor in pocket in my life my clothes are all worn out & I have not time nor money to buy new ones. But I have 1400 barrels of good coal & a pretty good stock of iron besides a great many other little nicknacks that no small sum could purchase. This is a fine demonstration that industry & perseverance will accomplish successes.

I believe you never knew the capital we commenced on. I have smiled often to myself when I have reflected on it? Whitman's sofcapolate stock were this negro, that lost him seven hundred dollars, from the sale of him at auction he expected to realize four or five hundred. This was to go for his share. Holm had a lawsuit from which he expected to recover four hundred dollars. This was to go for his share. Poor Till Garlick, you know his capital. This was a great prospect, poor Garlick, no money & no friends, but there was something better than all this - a thorough conviction in my own mind that the thing would succeed, & a determined resolution to carry it into opperation at all hazard.

I don't know but my ambition carried me a little too far, as it was the cause no doubt of my late sickness, but thank God I was never in better health than at present. Finally the amount of Capital actuly invested was simply this. It took fifty dollars out of the common stock to pay the Doct bill & buy the negro, & Holms Law suit was put off & the day of judgment how long that will be you Lawyers best know. However it matters not now the works we have erected if a fair valuation was taken of them, would amount to at least eight thousand Dollars & we have enough on Books that is good to pay our debt. This is not to cause taking every thing into consideration,

but what is all this to me, sometimes I think myself the bigest fool in the world to make a slave of myself in this way.

My prospects as it respects my engagement in life are compleatly <aborded>. Poor little Laura remains in good health &c but I think much thiner than when you left. I am very anxious about her health. If she should not live I believe I should finish off myself.

I saw the General the other day. He says he wont get many to go over the lake, poor fellow. By the time you read this you will have past the fatigues of your journey & I hope reaping the rich reward you so justly merit from a long & protracted absence from all that is dear to you in life. Oh! That happy meeting you cannot find language to tell it and neither can I, but I know it all. One bosom friend is worth the world besides.

You must not fail to bring Mrs Pray along with you, & then I shall hold you to your promise. I think if she knew the half you suffer in her absence she would not hesitate a moment.

You see I have no more paper or I could write a month. Do not forget to say all to my Parents & friends that I could say to think if I was present. Give my best Love to Mrs Pray & children.

Yours forever S[eth] Howard

[Envelope]
[Postage] 20
P. R. R. Pray Esq
Livermore
County of Oxford
State of Maine
[Postmark] Sep 20

A leegfork Guly 16 Dear Brother grecewed your lette- å few days sime & am happy to hear once more from hame a favour I have been long depriced of Mond & Luce have also been complaning føn æ long tum af Menn) My leurines is increasing & I have now but lette doubt of doing well this city is the hest place for a Physuconof owny in the nother country my health however is from & I though it is probable me Shall have the yellow here. It is now worm hot the Thermometer has but from 98 to 90 for Six days lue have parter with our gest La Lagett not without a great

ward left my Offen a few minuels sim he requested to que his to all the family I in is at the Red Mills they will Start in a few days for from the Storings Mond in com - pany with bol Inoder of this city has preschesed the Med Mile O lantation at 30 thousand dollars they are anticefacting a great Speculation - - -Mond secend on letter from Ith not long some the was then well - - Mour arquanton on this country are free quently: making inquises about your well fore & o I was at Peckshill about ten monnets this week fent could not leave my best fren longer than 24 hours & then on leusing I visit more but the Such except now & the beny the way of in the city in my arguentam

It exchanged your money levit through my carlefoness permited the to take of perent whenos at some other affices I could hour exchanged ever for newlinglound fraken I had Some difficulty in getting it two dollar Stoup Should any of my friends west this city a gain they were find on 4 Offw 80, 112 Chapel Street I will Sem you this morning Paper & was the Post affine neren I would send you on every morning Moan Charges na nothing for his I take the Statesman Therefore I have two papers for day you proledly have seen the account of the ascension of Mr. Bobuson in the bolow It was the most ourful & Sublim Sun I ham but hehite Such a crowd of people new

Were ofembled on the Battery & in Hasta Gorden begon 29 was in the farter at the time with nearly fur thousand If I enclose three notes on Him om three one one My love to all Possent Brottons Sisters \$6 - - Mours \$6 juntoward. 55 7/16/1825 From: V.R. Howard To: Mr Rowland B Howard

RBH-0e33 New York Leeds Maine

Source: Bowdoin

New York July 16 [1824?] [See Note 1]

Dear Brother

I received your letter a few days since & am happy to hear once more from home, a favour I have been long deprived of. Ward & Lucia have also been complaining for a long time of your neglect.

My business is increasing & I have now but little doubt of doing well. This city is the best place for a Physician, of any in the northern country. My health however is poor & I think it is probable we shall have the yellow-fever. It is now very hot. The thermometer has been from 98 to 90 for six-days. We have parted with our gest LaFayett not without a great parade &c.

Ward left my office a few minutes since. He requested to give his to all the family. Len is at the Red Mills. They will start in a few days for the Springs. Ward in company with Joe Snowden of this city has purchased the Red Mill Plantation at 30 thousand dollars. They are anticipating a great speculation.

Ward recd a letter from Seth not long since. He was then well. Your acquaintances in this country are frequently makeing inquires about your well fare &c.

I was at Peekskill about ten minutes this week but could not leave my office longer than 24 hours & then on business. I visit none but the Sick except now & then by the way of increasing my acquaintance in the city.

I exchanged your money but through my carlessness permited them to take a percent whereas at some other offices I could have exchanged ever for New England paper.

I had some difficulty in geting it off as it was supposed to be two dollar Stamp.

Should any of my friends visit this city again, they will find my office No 112 Chapel Street. I will send you this mornings paper & was the Post Office nerer I would send you one every morning. Noan charges me nothing for his. I take the Statesman. Therefore I have two papers per day.

You probably have seen the account of the ascension of Mr Robinson in the bolon. It was the most awful & sublime scene I have ever beheld. Such a crowd of people never were assembled on the battery & in the Castle Garden before. I was in the Garden at the time with nearly four thousand.

My love to all Parent Brothers Sisters &c

Yours &c V.R. Howard

P.S. I enclose three notes one five, one three, one one.
[Envelope]
Mr Rowland B Howard
Leeds
Maine
[Postmark] New York July 16

[Note 1. The date 1824 was written in later. General Lafayette visited New York City in July 1825. Thus, the year should have been 1825. "Contemporary newspapers reported temperatures exceeding 100 degrees on July 13, 1825; the city and its environs were prostrate with heat and drought as the Nation's Guest prepared to take his final leave of Manhattan. According to an account published by the Newark Sentinel on July 19, 1825, it was early on the morning of Thursday, July 14th, 1825, that General Lafayette was escorted by military parade from his lodgings on Broadway, New York City, to the Hoboken ferry, where he crossed the Hudson River into New Jersey." From the Bergen County Historical Society.]

New Josh. 29 th August - 1824 Dear Parrents, I beg that you will pardon mi for not having written oftenen to you it has not been owing to want of respect. of affection or a proper sum of the many obligation I am moder to the best of persuls for the numerous favours they have bottown on me. that I have these negtrobed them. I am myself a form and absent from my chiles of consiguently have some lettle experience of the various amenting that you must includely proce foll for yours part. It falls to my los however at the time to offord you down un olation with infut to one of your Midma who has bun some him abrant my Brother M. Rathbon must me as few days sein on bois the Steam Boat on his way to virit me i Packskile he had

from Richmond Va and not stoping to inqui in the lety for me took papage immorestely on bowd the Steam boat, It to hapened that I was going up in the same boat after mis A. who was then on a visit in the Country he neognized one the moment he saw om. I has not the but mudbection of him after making himself known Is was not long however before - would have a family resemblance in him, I apour you I was entrumby hepy to see from and highly believed with his appearant desportment In anompanies on to Rella Rice & back and spirit a few days with me in this tity. In anforefred a wish to attend a lower of Medrial Lectures at Cortleton It for which place In Sterled yesterday in the Humboat as for as albany. he will remem three to Washs & will probably be able to obtain a practising Liem at the enfunction of the term from some apour you that he is every thing that

his Carento Brother or Lister could wish & & think deserves greet critist for his perseveran & Ladustry in prosecuting this thedies _ In win undouty with to you from betteton. Mrs Howard has not get misovered her Health, one my over has been nimerable descripthe protestleamone I attribute it to resideing in the bity during the Hot wather I have however traveled considerable have been myself to Serve togu & Balls town from Mrs f. did not anonhing me as has Physician die nd approve of the waters & a nother climate as a new by for her comptaints, we are not of how helping awing to her the trutth. we boarding of Pollen for Mich & furnish on noon. I have let out my how & landing for the fromt. I want much to an you all an seriously interest making you a trist this summe but my business word not from it - our little daught in at the Ris Mills & has not but with an cluming the Jumm. I infert has never bun more the earn of her mother sim she wir finds bom. the is you 16 month. of & a wy fine hitthy child - I com and no mon of from the Most with my dell wishers to be remaindered to say branch of our fundy in tuturely I Some with me is much love to one dur't beloved Paris. Mart 13 Howard

52 8/29/1824 *From:* Ward B Howard

RBH-0e34 New York

Source: Bowdoin

To: Capt'n Seth Howard

Leeds
County of Kennebeck ME

New York 29th August 1824

Dear Parrents.

I beg that you will pardon me for not having written oftener to you. It has not been owing to want of respect or affection or a proper sense of the many obligations I am under to the best of parrents for the numerous favours they have bestowed on me, that I have thus neglected them. I am myself a parent and absent from my child & consequently have some little experience of the various anxieties that you must naturally have felt for years past.

It falls to my lot however at this time to afford you some consolation with respect to one of your children who has been sometime absent. My Brother V. Rathbon met me a few days since on board the Steam Boat on his way to visit me in Peekskill. He had landed but a few hours before in a packet from Richmond Va and not stoping to inquire in the City for me took passage immediately on board the Steam boat. It so hapened that I was going up in the same boat after Mrs H. who was then on a visit in the Country. He recognized me the moment he saw me. I had not the least recollection of him after making himself known. It was not long however before I could trace a family resemblance in him. I assure you I was extremely hapy to see him and highly pleased with his appearance & deportment. He accompanied me to Peekskill & back and spent a few days with me in this city. He expressed a wish to attend a Course of Medical Lectures at Castleton Vt for which place he started yesterday in the Steam boat as far as Albany. He will remain there 16 weeks & will probably be able to obtain a practicing License at the expiration of the term from some Medical society in this state. Let me assure you that he is every thing that his Parents Brothers or Sisters could wish & I think deserves great credit for his perseverance & industry in prosecuting his studies. He will undoubtedly write to you from Castleton.

Mrs Howard has not yet recovered her Health, and my own has been miserable during the present summer. I attribute it to residing in the City during the Hot weather. I have however traveled considerable, have been myself to Saratoga & Ballstown Springs. Mrs H. did not accompany me as her Physician did not approve of the waters & a northern climate as a remedy for her complaints. We are not at house keeping owing to her ill health. We [are] boarding at 8 Dollars per week & furnish [hole in paper] room. I have let out my house & lands [hole in paper] for the present. I want much to see you all and seriously intended making you a visit this summer, but my business would not permit. Our little daughter is at the Red Mills & has not been with us during the summer & infant has never been under the care of her mother since she was first born. She is now 16 months old & a very fine healthy child. I can add no more at present.

Mrs H with myself wishes to be remembered to every branch of our family respectively & joins with me in much love to our dear & beloved Parents

Ward B Howard

[Envelope]
Capt'n Seth Howard
Leeds
County of Kennebeck ME
[Postmark] NEW YORK AUG 31

Castleton Vy. Sept 4 1824 Dear Brothen More will be surpresed to hear from at this place where I arrived a few days sime for the purpose of attens. ing a cours of Lectures I left Christiansburg Ja, about six weeks since I traveled on horsbas to Thechmone where I remained a week my hors then got lance & I exchange him for a three years old colt unbroken which I sent ley a friend of mine back to Moulgonery Twho will brake him & tooke can of him without expense till I seturn of give order for him to be sole I then took water to Newyork when I arrived on the twentieth of languest. Went immediately arrost the lowing & fooks the Stumbout for Perhabit not knowing that ward level in the City but augilently Wand came on board going to Pechshill for his wefe who was the on a visit I mognised him as soon as I safer thim I mine featily made myself known the meeting was or happy one indeed I went with them to the Bed Muchs, from theme to limber outer when I found that Toseph had left for this place the same day I returned with Ward to the City ruber I remained till

lost faturday then took Stumboat to Mewburg righte I remained tier Sunday everying I their saw a better from you to Parnjelia when I first learn't the death of our dear course & your most affectionation I booson friend it livas news of a most defagreable hind to me although I with swammed of him fatal diseas some time Since - We must all some day orother pay the great detet of nature . I as for my Point Vam recine at any time that you is pleased to summon me this is a world of troubt & disupointment the next can be nomore I took the Boat from Newburg to albany from theme in Stage to this place 78 sniles from albany where I shall memain Siptier weeks Those Motes of Lindseys I sent to him for collection he let the Gentleman have a horse which I note to Muchmond (as I told you before) for the Largest note the other he could not pay I left at however with Dr Chapman His commission and not very good for fraging money at this time Had suit been brought on the notes they could not have been cookleded at all Laws of Blangine their lieng no with

Ward is one of the first fellows in the world I he has a no less amable wife pleased with & Lamely I was also much My health is not good but better than when I left very hard I remained there till this Time I fear. I should have had a severe attack of Bellow fewer it has been gemanhably hot the past wason I is now very suchley in that place -I am no great hast my bell is now ringing & I must close My lowe to Posents brother & testers fours &5 My Howard I I write me immediately without delay it is a long time Since I heard from home from home frants of the United States & five fine Propelsons &6-~

Rowland Bollowing

53 9/4/1824

From: V.R. Howard

To: Mr Rowland B Howard

RBH-0e35

Castleton Vt.

Leeds, Maine

Source: Bowdoin

Castleton Vt. Sept 4th 1824

Dear Brother

You will be surprised to hear from me at this place where I arrived a few days since for the purpose of attending a course of Lectures. I left Christiansburg Va about six weeks since. I traveled on horsback to Richmond where I remained a week. My hors then got lame & I exchanged him for a three years old colt unbroken which I sent by a friend of mine back to Montgomery who will brake him & take care of him - without expense till I return or give order for him to be sold.

I then took water to Newyork where I arrived on the twentieth of August, went immediately across the town & took the Steamboat for Peekskill not knowing that Ward lived in the City, but accidently Ward came on board going to Peekskill for his wife who was there on a visit. I recognized him as soon as I saw him & immediately made myself known. The meeting was a happy one indeed. I went with him to the Red Mills, from there to Uncle Bailey's where I found that Joseph had left for this place the same day. I returned with Ward to the City where I remained till last Saturday. Then took Steam boat to Newburg where I remained till Sunday evening. I then saw a letter from you to Pamelia where I first learnt the death of our dear cousin & your most affectionate & boosom friend. It was news of a most disagreeable kind to me although I was warned of her fatal diseas sometime since. We must all some day or other pay the great debt of nature. & as for my Part I am resined at any time that God is pleased to summon me. This is a world of trouble & disapointment. The next can be no more.

I took the boat from Newburg to Albany. From there in Stage to this place, 78 miles from Albany where I shall remain sixteen weeks.

Those notes of Lindsey's I sent to him for collection. He let the Gentleman have a horse which I rode to Richmond (as I told you before) for the Largest note. The other he could not pay. I left it however with Dr Chapman. His circumstances are not very good for paying money at this time. Had just been brought on the notes. They could not have been collected at all as they are outlawed according to the Laws of Virginia, their being no witness nor Seal.

Ward is one of the finest fellows in the world & he has a no less amiable wife. Uncle Philips family I was also much pleased with.

My health is not good but better than when I left Virginia. Had I remained there till this time I fear I should have had a severe attack of Bilious fever. It has been remarkably hot the past season & is now very sickly in that place.

I am in great hast. My bell is now ringing & I must close. My love to Parents brothers & sisters.

Yours &c V.R. Howard

PS Write me immediately without delay. It is a long time since I heard from home. We have about 150 students from all parts of the United States & five fine Professors &c.

[Envelope]
Castleton Vt
Sept 4
[Postage] 182
Mr Rowland B Howard
Leeds,
Maine