

Cent N.Y. Jan 9th 1825

Dear Brother I left Castleton at  
the close of the Lectures called at Newburg  
where I spent a few days at our good Uncle  
in the Society of some of the first Cousins  
in the world I then went to the City  
where I remained a few days with Wm  
& Sister Lucia whose health is very  
bad I then came to this place where  
I have been two weeks I have taken  
a Diploma from this State for Practic-  
ing Physic & Surgery after a very strict  
examination by the Censors but thank  
fortune I have enough to answer every  
question I reciev'd a letter from Seth  
not long since he invites me to  
come to Partington Mississippi where  
Mr Pray now resides who is getting  
rich fast I expect however to go into  
Partnerships with Benj. Bailey in  
the City of New York Hill Springs  
who is doing a good business there  
I think then I shall go to Partington  
unless I can do better in the City



I am very sorry that I could  
not visit our dear Parents when  
I left Castleton but my circum-  
stances would not permit of my  
spending more money than was  
absolutely necessary therefore I  
was obliged to deny myself the  
happiness - I have used every  
exertion in my power to procure  
a profession which I am in  
hopes will afford me a living  
but this country is overflowing  
with professional characters & unless  
I do business in the city I shall  
abandon the idea of settling in  
this country - I have talked  
some of settling at ~~Camel corner~~  
~~on~~ Put Court House but I fear  
I could not do business for some  
time there therefore I have always  
wished the idea as it is necessary  
for me to do enough at the start  
to pay my way I shall go  
in a few days to Newbury from  
there to the city. R6



Then could nothing have afforded  
more pleasure than to have seen  
my dear friends in main before  
I sailed but I am in hopes if I  
am fortunate to be able to see  
them once more - tell my dear  
mother to rest easy about me for  
I am determined to persevere a steady  
course of life & if any thing enu-  
me sweeps it must be that -  
Uncle Bailey ~~of~~ & his family  
are all in tolerable good health  
Joseph returned with me from  
Castleton & with me has  
examination & earned a Diploma  
he will remain at present with  
his father - he wishes me to  
remember his love to you & to  
Uncle Phelps is doing tolerable good  
business at Newbury but his health  
is very bad - - -  
Uncle wishes to be remembered to  
our dear mother & father & to  
all send love to Lauriston & all  
the family write me at the  
City soon - I am Yours affectionately  
W. M. Howson



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Mr Andrew B Howson  
Leeds  
State of Maine

Dear Sir  
I have the honor  
to acknowledge the  
receipt of your  
letter of the 10th  
inst. in relation  
to the purchase of  
land in the town  
of Leeds, Me.

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54 1/9/1825 *From:* V.R. Howard

*To:* Mr Rowland B Howard

RBH-0e36

Kent N.Y.

Leeds  
State of Maine

*Source:* Bowdoin

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Kent N.Y. Jan 9th 1825

Dear Brother

I left Castleton at the close of the Lectures, called at Newburg where I spent a few days at our good Uncle's in the Society of some of the finest cousins in the World. I then went to the City where I remained a few days with Ward & sister Lucia whose health is very bad. I then came to this place where I have been two weeks. I have taken a Diploma from this State for Practicing Physic & Surgery after a very strict examination by the Censors, but thank fortune I have enough to answer every question. I received a letter from Seth not long since. He invited me to come to Purlington Mississippi where Mr Pray now resides, who is getting rich fast. I expect however to go into Partnership with Benj Bailey in the City of New York till Spring, who is doing a good business there. I think then I shall go to Purlington unless I can do better in the City.

I am very sorry that I could not visit our dear Parents when I left Castleton but my circumstances would not permit of my spending more money that was absolutely necessary. Therefore I was obliged to deny myself the happiness. I have used every exertion in my power to procure a profession which I am in hopes will afford me a living. But this country is overflowing with professional characters & unless I do business in the Cities I shall abandon the idea of settling in this country. I have talked some of settling at Put Court House but I fear I could not do business for some time there therefore I have relinquished the ideas as it is necessary for me to do enough at the Start to pay my way. I shall go in a few days to Newburg, from there to the City.

There could nothing have afforded more pleasure than to have seen my dear friends in Maine before I settled but I am in hopes if I am fortunate to be able to see them once more. Tell my dear mother to rest easy about me for I am determined to pursue a steady course of life & if any thing ensures me success it must be that.

Uncle Bailey & his family are all in tolerable good health. Joseph returned with me from Castleton & with me <took> examination & received a Diploma. He will remain at present with his father. He wishes me to remember his love to you &c. Uncle Phillips is doing tolerable good business at Newburg but his health is very bad. Uncle wishes to be remembered to our dear mother & father &c. All send love to Lucretia & all the family.

Write me at the City soon. I am yours affectionately  
V.R. Howard

[Envelope]

Kent N.Y. Jan 10, 1825

[Postage] 25

Mr Rowland B Howard

Leeds

State of Maine



Pearlington Mississippi State  
April 11 A 1826

Dear Parents being so much engaged in  
business I have delay'd writing for some  
time, I did flatter myself with the hope  
that I should receive letters from some of  
the family when Mr Pray returned but I  
was disappointed, I contented to enjoy good  
health, with the exception of some very se-  
-rious misfortune, I have nearly lost my eye  
sight, I can imagin no other cause but  
from casting of traps, I had made every aran-  
-gement ~~and~~ was determined ~~off~~ visiting you  
this summer, but I regret to say that it  
will be impossible, I have erected a Steam  
Sawmill in this place, which is now in off-  
-eration and unless I can get some one  
to superintend it, which is entirely out of  
the question in this country I cannot come  
but I have made up my mind positively  
to come in one year from this if I have  
to shut it up, If my <sup>sight</sup> ~~eyes~~ continues to get  
worse as fast as it has for the last two  
months I shall very soon be obliged to give  
up business, even now I cant keep my  
own accounts nor read a word, very words  
that I write I am obliged to have read  
to me to know what I have written

Pearlington  
1826

To Mr Howard Esq  
Care of J. Brown Esq  
St. Louis

Yours



it is a most unfortunate thing to me as it has deprived me of all kind of enjoyment if I had have had any idea of such a thing when I sold out the Foundry I should have given up business then, but as it is I must make the best of it, I have been advised by every body that knows me to do this and sometimes I agree with them & think it best for me with a constitution broken down and impaired as mine is to do no more, and then again I know I should be unhappy, but let things go as they will, I do not live for myself if I can educate my daughter, as she deserves to be it is all I want to do with life, so far as money can effect this there is nothing to fear, but this is not all I would prefer to have her under my own eye, I had a letter from her a few days ago she would have come down this last winter had not the small pox been very bad in New Orleans, when I come to the North I shall certainly bring her with me, unless you was to see it you have no idea of the immenses labors, anxiety, and trouble of mind, that it requires to manage the concerns of a large Steam Mill

the profits are very great or I should never undertaken it I have forty men employed altogether in the Swamps and about the Mill, the cuts to average six thousand feet of Cypress Lumber, <sup>in day</sup> which is all ordered before hand at \$35 per thousand board measure so that she executes work daily to the amount rising off \$200, but then there is a great many other parts of the story, in the first place the works cost a great deal of money and now and then a piece of machinery breaks that costs me from one to five hundred dollars to repair, notwithstanding from my reasonable calculation she must with my management clear eight thousand dollars a year - but I don't mean to be troubled with her longer than I can help, I would sell her tomorrow together with all the land and property I have attached to it, sometimes I fear that you will blame me for not coming to see you this summer, but really if you knew the singular train of circumstances that has taken place you would not blame me Mr. Pray and Family are well, give my love to all I am your affectionate son  
S. Howard



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56 4/11/1826 *From:* S. Howard

*To:* Seth Howard Esq

RBH-0e37

Pearlington Mississippi  
State

Leeds  
County of Kennebeck  
St Maine

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*Source:* Bowdoin

Pearlington Mississippi State  
April 11th 1826

Dear Parents

Being so much engaged in business I have delayd writing for some time. I did flatter myself with the hope that I should receive letters from some of the family when Mr Pray returnd but I was disapointed. I continue to enjoy good health, with the exception of one very serious misfortune. I have nearly lost my eye sight. I can immagin no other cause but from casting of brass.

I had made every arrangement and was determined on visiting you this Summer, but I regret to say that it will be impossible. I have erected a Steam Sawmill in this place, which is now in opperation and unless I can get some one to supertend it, which is entirely out of the question in this Country I cannot come but I have made up my mind positively to come in one year from this if I have to shut it up.

If my sight continues to get worse as fast as it has for the last two months I shall very soon be obliged to give up business. Even now I cant keep my own accounts nor read a word. My words that I write I am obliged to have read to me to know what I have written. It is a most unfortunate thing to me as it has deprived me of all kind of enjoyment. If I had have had any idea of such a thing when I sold out the Foundary I should have given up business then, but as it is I must make the best of it. I have been advised by every body that knows me to do this and sometimes I agree with them & think it best for me with a constitution brocken down and impaired as mine is to do no more, and then again I know I should be unhappy, but let things go as they will.

I do not live for myself. If I can educate my daughter, as she deserves to be, it is all I want to do with life. So far as money can effect this there is nothing to fear, but this is not all. I would prefer to have her under my own eye. I had a letter from her a few days ago. She would have come down this last winter had not the small Pox been very bad in New Orleans. When I come to the North I shall certainly bring her with me.

Unless you was to see it you have no idea of the immense Labour, anxiety, and trouble of mind, that it requires to manage the concerns of a large Steam Mill. The proffits are very great or I should never undertaken it. I have forty men imployd altogether in the swamp and about the Mill. She cutts to average six thousand feet of cypres Lumber per day which is all ordered before hand at \$35 pr thousand board measure so that she <executes> work dayly to the amount rising of \$200, but then there is a great many other parts of the story. In the first place the works cost a great deal of money and now and then a piece of machinery breaks that costs me from one to five hundred dollars to repair. Notwithstanding from any reasonable calculation she must with my management clear eight thousand dollars a year. But I don't mean to be troubled with her longer than I can help. I would sell her tomorrow together with all the land and property I have attached to it.

Sometimes I fear that you will blame me for not coming to see you this summer, but really if you knew the singular train of circumstances that has taken place you would not blame me. Mr Pray and family are well. Give my Love to all. I am your affectionate son.

S. Howard

[Envelope]  
[From] Pearlinton  
18th Apr, 26  
[Postage]25  
[To] Seth Howard Esq  
Leeds  
County of Kennebeck  
St Maine



My Dear S.

[1827?]

I know not with what terms to address you! how  
uncertain and fluctuating are all our imaginary pleasures I have  
long anticipated an answer to some of my letters and long expect-  
ed to have such news from you as would induce me easily  
ly to cross the ocean that divides us and Clasp my Eliza in  
my arms I have <sup>been</sup> in a kind of suspense ~~part~~ day after day week  
after week 3 months after month untill it is too late <sup>season-</sup> ~~to~~  
to go to Georgia <sup>now</sup> and no news of you has arrived ~~if~~ you  
are <sup>still</sup> alive and I should read this and call to mind the writer  
I yet indulge a hope that <sup>with</sup> your lesson ~~there~~ <sup>will</sup> ~~be~~ <sup>some</sup> ~~thing~~ <sup>that</sup>  
~~will~~ ~~be~~ ~~of~~ ~~great~~ ~~value~~ ~~to~~ ~~me~~ ~~and~~ ~~that~~ ~~in~~ ~~your~~ ~~answer~~  
(which if not written this must be my last) you will excuse your-  
self for this neglect and write me what is ~~so~~ long to hear  
that you are well and happy as you can be while so far  
him that loves you I should have written lately had I  
convinced that I could not receive an answer ~~in~~ time  
~~to~~ ~~go~~ ~~to~~ ~~Georgia~~ ~~in~~ ~~October~~ which has been my intention a  
and not receiving any letters at all from you has caused  
to give up the idea of going this fall and to try once  
learn from you I named to you that I had some duties  
discharge to my parents that called me home I now see them  
comfortably and pleasantly situated and ~~near~~ they and my  
little brother Benj<sup>n</sup> Franklin constitute our whole family and  
to tell the truth I am sometimes ~~loose~~ <sup>but</sup> ~~not~~ sleeping or awake  
my mind is often anticipating the pleasure ~~of~~ ~~being~~ ~~in~~  
the society of my Dear Girl but now I look at the immense  
distance <sup>that</sup> ~~is~~ ~~between~~ ~~us~~ at whose summit my men arrive  
were you here perhaps we might be happy I had a fortunate voyage  
last ~~week~~ <sup>from</sup> ~~to~~ ~~my~~ ~~father's~~ ~~house~~ Could I be sure of such a one  
again I would soon be with you but to go to sea is dismal  
except to see Eliza: do write me something of everything of all  
your affairs and whether you still remember me what I can  
do to live with you or you with me I still have a ~~great~~ <sup>great</sup> ~~desire~~



please in the prospect of my visit to Georgia and especially  
 to the house of your hospitable mother whom I much esteem  
 and long to see as well as all the family whom I greet  
 with my tenderest regards and now almost despairing of  
 any news from you write but short and will only remind  
 you again of my ever lasting affection and esteem for you  
 and ask if you have or soon forget your <sup>former</sup> professions  
 of attachment to your dearest friend ~~Richard D. Williams~~  
 R.D.W.

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Due	227.25	
	10	
	<u>212.75</u>	
received	209.25	
2000 my father	1.00	
the three items	1.50	
over bridge	4.00	
new horse	4.50	
new shoes	1.00	
enough	5.00	
not enough with making	6.00	
making keeping with	9.00	
3 by making small cases	9.00	
2 books	30.00	
my horse	50.00	
my horse	25.00	
my horse	60.00	
my horse	75.00	
my horse	50.00	
my horse	4.50	
my horse	39	
my horse	<u>45.00</u>	
my horse	20.25	
my horse	8.58	
my horse	75.00	
my horse	82.56	
my horse	42.44	
my horse	85.6	
my horse	<u>214.75</u>	



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58 6/1/1827 *From:* R.B.H.

*To:* My Dear Eliza [Otis]

RBH-0e38

*Source:* Bowdoin

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[1827? - written in pencil. Assume July 1 1827]

My Dear E

I know not with what terms to address you! How uncertain and transitory are all our imaginary pleasures. I have long anticipated on answer to some of my letters and long expected to have such news from you as would induce me immediately to cross the ocean that divides us and clasp my Eliza in my arms. I have passed in a kind of suspense day after day week after week & month after month until it is too late in the season to go to Georgia now and no news of you has arrived. If you are still alive and should read this and call to mind the writer I yet indulge a hope that within your bosom beats a pulse yet replete with true affection and that in your answer (which if not written this must be my last) you will excuse your self for this neglect and write me what I long to <hear [torn page]> that you are well and happy as you can be while so far <[torn page]> him that loves you. I should have written recently had <[torn page]> convinced that I could not receive an answer in time <[torn page]> Georgia in October which has been my intention <[torn page]> and not receive any letters at all from you has <caused me [torn page]> to give up the idea of going this fall and to try once more to hear from you. I named to you that I had some some duties to discharge to my parents that called me home. I now see them comfortably and pleasantly situated and they and my little brother Benjamin Franklin constituted our whole family and to tell she hath I am sometimes lonesome but yet sleeping or awake my mind is often anticipating the pleasure I might enjoy in the society of my Dear Girl but next I look at the immense distance that part us as a mountain at whose summit I may never arrive were you here perhaps we might be happy. I had a fortunate voyage but twelve days from Savannah to my fathers house. Could I be sur of such a one again I would soon be with you but to go to sea is dismal except to see Eliza. Do write me something of everything of all your affairs and whether you still remember me what I can do to live with you or you with me I still have a gratifying pleasure in the <expectation> of my visit to Georgia and especially to the house of your hospitable mother whom I much esteem and long to see as well as all the family whom I greet with my tenderest regard and now almost despairing of any news how you'd write but short and will only remind you again of my everlasting affection and esteem for you and ask if you have so soon forgotten your warm professions of attachment to your dearest friend .

R.B.H.



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
New York March the 24<sup>th</sup> 1827

Dear Brother I received your letter of the 28<sup>th</sup> of January  
a few weeks since it afforded me the greatest  
pleasure to learn of the good health of my friends  
in that part of the country. It is a blessing that  
I have since till lately ~~have~~ known how high to  
estimate — Within the last six months I have for  
the most of the time been incapable of attending to  
my business in consequence of ill health —  
My prospects were once & are still very good, but  
in consequence of my health I have resolved to  
leave — A Southern climate will suit me  
best & I have not the least doubt but that I shall  
be perfectly well in a short time —  
Jeth has frequently written for me to come to him  
but I have always refused till I received his last  
letter — I have now concluded to go to  
Peabington (Mississippi) where he now resides  
The last Spring got a situation for me which  
was worth three thousand five hundred dollars  
per annum I was very angry because I would  
not except of it. It was Surgeon to one of  
the fortifications at that place with permission  
to practice out of the fort. That situation is  
now however filled but he holds out other  
prospects which will perhaps be equally as  
profitable. It is quite healthy in that part  
of the country where he resides & there is not  
the least doubt but that it will be better for  
me as it respects my purse & more to be  
considered than all my health —  
My complaint appears to be primarily of  
the lungs & bowels but I flatter myself  
there is nothing permanent & that on my  
arrival in a Southern climate I shall be  
perfectly restored — I shall leave here in  
a packet for New Orleans tomorrow morning  
when I shall probably arrive in the course of



Sixteen or twenty days at the longest.  
When I will also write you immediately

My Dear Parents must not be the least  
anxious about me as it is the opinion of  
my best friends here that is is the best thing  
I can do

Ward & family live at Peckskill when I left  
them a few weeks since he has two fine  
girls - Lucie is in tolerable health only, Ward  
is in the lumber business & is doing considerable  
business - he has not seen your letter yet  
but I will inclose it to him today

Uncle Phillips's family remain at Newburgh  
yet I believe get a very good living I have  
not been there since last spring. None of  
the girls are yet married but all are very  
amiable & worthy of the best of husbands -  
Uncle Bailey's family are nearly as when  
you left them except that Benjamin has  
settled in the city in the practice of  
medicine - Joseph has moved to Peckskill  
& occupies the situation of Dr. Hayes who  
has moved to this city

Mr. Hurdle has married Miss Emma  
Constant (Judge Constant's daughter)  
& a Mr. Birdsell has married Miss Jane  
the other daughter - None of Scott's  
Girls have married since you left I believe  
Neth will probably come on to the north  
this summer

As it respects the Howland Linsay debt I  
thought I had given you the particulars long  
since but I must have been mistaken by  
your letter - at any rate I got a horse  
for the largest notes which I exchanged for  
a better - two year old colt which I left  
I left with Mr. John Robinson near



Blacksburg (Montgomery County) who  
promised to break & take care of him till  
he secured some further instruction from  
me free of cost. I wrote to him last  
Spring to sell him & forwarded the money to me  
he informed me in his answer that the colt  
had got hooked by a steer a short time since  
& he was afraid would never recover him  
that he wrote me that he was dead & mentioned  
that he had been offered \$100 for him before  
he got hooked. The other Note I left  
with Mr. David Chapman or rather Isaac  
Chapman & sons Merchants Blacksburg Va.  
for collection. I have their receipt which I  
can send to you any time if necessary. You had  
better write to them immediately but I am certain  
they have not collected it yet as I believe  
Howland is rather poor. I never have seen  
one cent of it in no way except the box  
you see how he has gone

As it respects the money you lent  
me I am really ashamed to make  
any excuse for it aught long since  
to have been repaid. But just at  
this time I am wanting every cent I can  
raise to pay my expenses which will be very  
high on the journey. I have debts to a  
considerable amount. But you see that I shall  
be obliged to let stand for a short time  
I hope however to have in in my power to  
pay you before long as it was a favor  
I shall never forget.

My love to our Dear Parents & every  
branch of the family. I expect to return  
to this City in one Year from this time  
when I may visit you. In great haste  
I remain your affectionate  
Brother Wm. Howland



Mr. Gordon

W. J. Gordon

State of Maine

JP

has





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57 3/24/1827 *From:* V.R. Howard

*To:* Mr Rowland B Howard

RBH-0e39

New York

Leeds  
State of Maine

*Source:* Bowdoin

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New York March the 24th 1827

Dear Brother

I received your letter of the 28th of January a few weeks since. It accorded me the greatest pleasure to learn of the good health of my friends in that part of the country. It is a blessing that I have never till lately known how high to estimate. Within the last six months I have for the most of the time been incapable of attending my business in consequence of ill health. My prospects here have & are still very good, but in consequence of my health I have resolved to leave. A Suthern climate will suit me best & I have not the least doubt but then I shall be perfectly well in a short time.

Seth has frequently written for me to come to him but I have always refused till I received his last letter. I have now concluded to go to Pearlington (Mississippi) where he now resides. He last Spring got a situation on me which was worth three thousand five hundred dollars per annum & was very angry becaus I would not except of it. It was Surgeon to one of the fortifications at that place with permission to practice out of the fort. That situation is now however filled but he holds out other prospects which will perhaps be equally as practicable. It is quite healthy in that part of the country where he resides & there is not the least doubt but that it will be better for me as it respects my purse & more to be considered than all my health.

My complaint appears to be primarily of the lungs & bowells but I flatter myself there is nothing permanent & that on my arrival in a Suthern climate I shall be perfectly restored. I shall leave here in a packet for New Orleans tomorrow morning where I shall probaly arrive in the course of sixteen or twenty days at the longest, when I will also write you immediately.

My Dear Parrents must not be the least uneasy about me, as it is the opinion of my best friends here that it is the best thin I can do.

Ward & family live at Peekskill when I left there a few weeks since. He has two fine girls. Lucia is in tolerable health only. Ward is in the lumber business & is doing considerable business. He has not seen your letter yet but I will enclose it to him today. Uncle Phillip's family remain at Newburgh yet & I believe get a very good liveing. I have not been there since last spring. None of the girls are yet married, but all are very amiable & worthy of the best of husbands. Uncle Bailey's family are nearly as when you left here, except that Benjamin has settled in this city in the practice of medicum. Joseph has moved to Peekskill & occupys the situation of Dr Hayes who has moved to this City. Harry Rundle has married Miss Emma Constant (Judge Constant's daughter) & a Mr Birdsall has married Miss Jane the other daughter. None of Doct Shnnon girls have married since you left. I believe seth will proabaly come on to the north this summer.

As it respects the Rowland Linsey debt I thought I had given you the particulars long since but I must have been mistaken by your letter. At any rate I got a horse for the largest note which I exchanged for a butiful two year old colt, which colt I left with Mr John Robinson near Blacksburg (Montgomery County) who promised to break & take care of him till he received some further instruction from me , free of cost. I wrote to him last spring to sell him & forward the money to me. He informed me in his answer that the colt had got hooked by a steer a short time since & he was afraid would never recover. Since that he wrote me that he was dead & mentioned that he had been offered \$100 for him before he got hooked. The other note I left with Doct. David J Chapman or rather Isac Chapman & Sons Merchants Blacksburg Va. for collection. I have their receipt which I can send to you any time if necessary. You had better write to them immediately but I am certain they have not collected it yet as I believe Rowland's rather poor. I never have received one cent of it in no way except the hors <[torn page]> you see how he has gone. <As> it respects the money you lent me. I am realy ashamed to make any excuse for it ought long since to have been <sent> but just at this time I am wanting every cent I can rais to pay my expenses which will be very high on the journey. I have debts to a considerable amount due me here that I shall be obliged to let stand for a short time. I hope however to have it in my power to pay you before long as it was a favor I shall never forget.

My love to our Dear Parents & every branch of the family. I expect to return to this city in one year from this



time when I may visit you. In great haste I remain your affectionate Brother.

V.R. Howard

[Envelope]

[Postmark] New York [date unreadable]

Mr Rowland B Howard

Leeds

State of Maine



New York 14<sup>th</sup> March 1834

Dear Brother

When I left you I intended  
writing immediately on my return, but  
I cannot recollect having done it, on  
the 4<sup>th</sup> of Jan<sup>y</sup>. I had the misfortune to  
break my leg since which time I have  
not been out of my room until within  
the last 10 days I have with the aid  
of Crutches been down in the parlour &  
dined with the family. I am now fast  
recovering & intend going up the river  
to see my children in a few days. I  
hear from them frequently and have the  
pleasure to inform you that they are  
all well with the exception of the  
whooping Cough my youngest daughter &  
little boy have been affected with that  
during the winter but Mr Mitchell writes  
me that they have it favorable - I am

Rowland B. Howland Esq  
North Leeds

Mr.





with my sister in Law Mrs. Nixon who has  
been more than a sister to me, every comfort  
and every attention during my long confinement  
has been bestowed upon me with a lavish  
hand so much so that I must confess that  
my sufferings have been light and trifling to  
what I at first anticipated. It has been an  
temporary inconvenience in relation to my  
business but it will soon be over & my health  
sound & as straight as ever. The great scarcity  
of money during the winter has affected my  
pecuniary concerns a little. I purchased rather  
too much real Estate the last season. my  
Highland Granite Quarry is however like to  
turn out well. Mr. Park from Wintthrop was  
here in the fall & left a day or two before I broke  
my leg. he went up to the Quarry with me. &  
can give you some particulars when you see  
him, a Mr. Barrett from Hallowell our  
foreman on the Longfellow's Quarry has been  
here during my confinement. That Quarry has  
not done as well as I expected the last year  
It has however cleared 10 per cent on the Capital

I should like to dispose of my Interest in that  
Quarry if I could do it without loss. I find that  
I am liable to sickness and accidents daily and  
the sooner I close my affairs the better it will  
be for myself & children. I have no longer any  
ambition to gratify and should feel content to settle  
down in peace and quietness the short time that remains  
for me in this transitory world. Let me hear from  
you your family and all our friends around you  
to whom you will please remember me  
affectionately particularly our dear father it  
is possible that I may visit you during the  
coming season. I should be happy to see you  
or any of my friends here at all times. I shall  
probably be in a better situation to receive them  
when I am settled at Pukskill when I intend going  
ere long. Let me know how our dear sister  
Levee is & her family I feel great anxiety about  
them & have thought much of them during the  
winter. my love to all your affectionate  
Brother

R. B. Howard  
R. B. Howard



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59 3/14/1837 *From:* Ward B. Howard

*To:* Rowland B. Howard Esq

RBH-0e40

New York

North Leeds  
Me.

*Source:* Bowdoin

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New York 14th March 1837

Dear Brother

When I left you I intended writing immediately on my return, but I cannot recollect having done it. On the 4th of Jan'y I had the misfortune to break my leg since which time I have not been out of my room untill within the last 10 days I have with the aid of Crutches been down in the parlour & dined with the family. I am now fast recovering & intend going up the river to see my children in a few days. I hear from them frequently and have the pleasure to inform you that they are all well with the exception of the whoping cough. My youngest daughter & little boy have been afflicted with that during the winter but Mrs Mitchell writes me that they have it favourable.

I am with my sister in Law Mrs <Niuen> who has been more than a sister to me, every comfort and every attention during my long confinement has been bestowed upon me with a lavish hand so much so that I must confess that my sufferings have been light and trifling to what I at first anticipated. It has been a temporary inconvenience in relation to my business but it will soon be over & my Leg as sound & as straight as ever.

The great scarcity of money during the winter has affected my pecuniary concern a little. I purchased rather too much real Estate the last Season. My Highland Granite Quarry is however likely to turn out well. Mr Puck from Winthrop was here in the fall & left a day or two before I broak my leg. He went up to the Quarry with me, & can give you some particulars when you see him. A Mr Barrett from Hallowell our foreman on the Longfellow Quarry has been here during my confinement. That Quarry has not done as well as I expected the last year. It has however cleared 10 per Cent on the Capital.

I should like to dispose of my interest in that Quarry, if I could do it without loss. I find that I am liable to sickness and accidents daily and the sooner I close my affairs the better it will be for myself & children. I have no longer any ambition to gratify and should feel content to settle down in peace and quietness the short time that remains for me in this transitory world.

Let me hear from you, your family and all our friends around you to whom you will please remember me affectionately particularly our dear father. It is possible that I may visit you during the coming season. I should be happy to see you or any of my friends here at all times. I shall probably be in a better situation to receive them when I am settled at Peekskill where I intend going ere long. Let me know how our dear sister Lucretia is & her family. I feel great anxiety about them & have thought much of them during the winter. My love to all.

Your affectionate Brother  
Ward B. Howard

R. B. Howard Esq

[Envelope]

Rowland B. Howard Esq

North Leeds

Me.

[Postmark] NEW YORK MAR 16



New York 1 July 1840

Dear Brother

Your letter announcing the  
miserably death of our Brother Rowland  
was recd in due course of mail & ought  
to have answered it long before this, and can  
assign no just cause that I have met, other  
than my own bad health & depressed  
spirits has for the last few months unfitted  
me for almost any kind of business, at the  
time I received your letter my health was  
improving, the miserably news your  
letter imparted & the derangement of my  
private affairs has very much retarded  
my recovery, I had been for three months  
confined to my room & to the hours the  
whole winter and am at this time far from  
being well I have <sup>been</sup> still continue to be under  
the Doct<sup>r</sup> Charge & the influence of medicine

I cannot express my feelings of sympathy  
for the Widow of Brother Rowland & her  
family, when I received his last letter I had every  
reason to expect that long before this my children  
would have been deprived of their only parent  
my Affairs in a wretched condition & they  
left without a protector, fortunately for his  
children they enjoy the kind protection of a mothers  
care, and I hope ere this both sister & children  
have become reconciled to the will of divine  
providence in thus depriving them of a  
husband & father,

remember me affectionately  
to her & her children our dear father, and  
our family respectively, in respect to your



means of visiting your family as expressed  
in your letter & wish that it was in my  
power to aid you. I am aware of your  
great anxiety to see them and can but  
think that brother Stillman will assist  
you, on this subject you know of them  
myself; I am happy to hear that your health  
has improved & hope that you may soon be  
restored to perfect health. It was said that  
Franklin would come on here on his way  
South in June & that <sup>perhaps</sup> likely you might accompany  
him but not having heard from him I presume  
that he has not passed through the City. Let  
me hear from you on the receipt of this  
& feel anxious respecting the health of you  
all particularly our aged father to whom  
the death of Brother Peabody must have  
been a severe blow & very affecting. Please  
write me respecting Sister Lucia & her family  
I was much surprised & mortified to learn that she  
was reduced to the necessity of leaving her home to  
work in a factory, & wish that I possessed the  
means of relieving her in any way from such  
imbarment. From a letter I rec<sup>d</sup> from Evert  
A. Bridgman I observed that Dea<sup>t</sup> Bridgman  
was P. West. I will take the liberty of enclosing  
this to him <sup>or subscribe it to him</sup> for you and us. It contains no  
cents may read it & hand it over to you

Your affectionate Brother

M. B. Howard

Mr. Seth Howard Jr.



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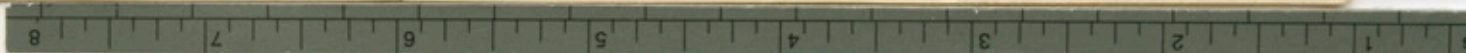
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Thomas W. Bradburn Esq



Post Office

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60 7/1/1840 *From:* W.B.Howard

*To:* Mr Seth Howard Jr.  
[Care of]  
Thomas W. Bridgham  
Esq  
Post Master  
Leeds Me

RBH-0e41

New York

*Source:* Bowdoin

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New York 1st July 1840

Dear Brother

Your letter announcing the melancholly death of our Brother Rowland was rec'd in due course of mail. I ought to have answered it long before this, and can assign no just cause that I have not, other than my own bad health & depressed spirits has for the last few months unfitt me for almost any kind of business. At the time I received your letter my health was improving. The melancholly news your letter imparted & the derangement of my private affairs has very much retarded my recovery. I had been for three months confined to my room & to the House the whole winter and am at this time far from being well. I have been & still continue to be under the Doct Charge & the influence of medicine.

I cannot express my feelings of sympathy for the widdow of Brother Rowland & her family. When I received his last letter I had every reason to expect that long before this my children would have been deprived of their only parrent. My affairs in a wretched condition & they left without a protector, fortunately for his children they enjoy the kind protection of a mother's care. And I hope ere this both sister & children have become reconciled to the will of divine providence in thus depriving them of a Husband & father.

Remember me affectionately to her & her children, our dear father, and our family respectively, in respect to your means of visiting your family as expressed in your letter I wish that it was in my power to aid you. I am aware of your great anxiety to see them and can but think that brother Stillman will assist you, on this subject you know more than myself. I am happy to hear that your health has improved & hope that you may soon be restored to perfect health. It was said that Franklin would come on here on his way South in June. I thought likely you might accompany him but not having heard from him I presume that he has not passed through the City. Let me hear from you on the receipt of this. I feel anxious respecting the health of you all, particularly our aged father to whom the death of Brother Rowland must have been a severe blow & very afflicting. Please write me respecting Sister Lucretia & her family. I was much surprised & mortified to hear that she was reduced to the necessity of leaving her home to work in a factory & wish that I possessed the means of relieving her in any way from such imbarasment.

From a letter I recd from Everett H Bridgham I observed that Doct Bridgham was P. Master. I will take the liberty of enclosing this to him or superscribe it to him for you and as it contains no secrets may read it & hand it over to you.

Your affectionate Brother  
W.B.Howard

Mr Seth Howard Jr.

[Envelope]  
Thomas W. Bridgham Esq  
Post Master  
Leeds Me