late I wish you would take my second cugar" I pay the price, for you so I have not the three directors to enclose of I connor go to get it myself. Line it will be such a tax whom your finances. I must nor runge you to visit me this summer. I wish Eser you very much & I wish to See Liggio too. Bur I mens think of your interest as well as of my pleasure. How long has Tizze heen sick of how sick has she then . They on mor tell me such things - lexpect it is locause I myself am aft to be silent about my adments unless I am very ill. Remember me to all my friends. Tell the president if you should happen to talk with them Mar I wisher much to spend this next commercements as Bundon, but it is impossible. I hope you will as very mele. but I paar to have you they too hard. I write a letter to the last devertiser giving an occument Ourter prefeces my letter by some appropriate remarks the himself was here two years - ment home on Jurlough of some certain circumstances prevented his returning. Perhapshe got married. I do not person. It lease that is a circumstance which would hinder his return muss affectually - goodby I comment read this over - with soon - From your affectionate trother 6. a. Howard.

West Fring All July 15th 1853.

My clear brother Gesterding & got Excused from will on account of a vile and I wrote a long letter to mother, To day I am also Excused on the same plea and I will indeavor to make you our one. Now Bouland nothing would be more gratifying to me then hi lorsespond with you regularly, har if you do not get a letter you may not magin that you are forgotten for a day never passes hut I think of you hus you must recollect that I am in Camps and that the whole lune is taken up from morning till night - At present from about ten minutes after four ble ben minutes of five I have to myself and if it and not some in the afternoon, I evolt Employ is in writing, has the afternoon is a had line for me to attempt to write anything, and I get so dreadfully how Every day What I cannot think of writing after tapo. Neverthelep I will do my best to Julfill my part. For the last few days me have had Some very hand V dirty work to do at the Lebrating. Each ser of three makes a fire Vall- we first take of evals will up our sleves hi the Elbow & green our hands I arms. Then we pulverize to the of sulphus Meter sult. poter) 6 Nos of sulphur & his or three Los of antimony of mighten byether - melt & to of bushing & from the former my here moto is. Then her fake large pieces of

converte of submorte then with tooling her pilote one se I by Men together. Then me dry these pieces the they are as pare as leather & Sew them after the Three makers prosion into the form of a large trall with a narrow neck, This we then But mits hirling water, till it is soft I with our hunds here The thing series maide our of it is hurder of derlier work than tkinning a slipping Est, no a satin vest. Then nee place the ball in a flock with a smould just ving Enough to contain the ball, the black heing secured witheven houps. Through the neck that first composition is onserto stour a frint at a time - after Every depper full we have to strike thenty one flows with mulets about as heavy as our old sledge hammer, upon the and of a price of wood inserted in the need. This takes a long them - When me get the ball Jule, it is haken our ofils case looking right plump of round, then we suspend him by the neck and plain around of a net work of turned rope - ye. This when somplete is what is sulled a fire vale. It can be gived from a mortar to any elevated position whereir will burn for some time with an intensely bright light or it can be thrown into a place. Mit object being to sex Something on fine. me have besides there to make Custridges of all kinds- 300 or 400 aprèce - wekets- Komon Candles - matches - Grape of lawister shot ye, My Class are now drilling at the morter buttery as soon of they return, I will have to go with their to the labration, I work tile roon. In the afternoon we have to recite in laches, infanty one day of artillery the next, we get 30 or 40 pages ar a lepson, and now hi ger is right after

Unner when a man is Beary headed of sleepey. Why I the nor get time to read at all. I thought I would have a fine Time reading this Encampment, but I was mistaken. I did not know that Vizzie had her sick till you work me I received a letter from her at the same time. I could not like why I had received no letter for so very long time. They are firing at the third class battery now - and also at the first class mertin battery. The latter are firing shells To a barrel serup on a post for a larger just to the sight of the Encampenent Camp, you can hear the shell wistle along as they come over. A part of their weigh go to In wor they have put who then about two clop of powder was as to brust them just after they reach their destination, but we only pur in four ogo just sufficient to Whow our the gase The third class are making music firing just as faces as they can one after another. It would amuse you to Su ledies jump as the firings, and I wes not help the silly disposition at all to till them there is not the least danger. I have received all the papers you have sent me conv rend them with-pleasure It is green that I have not told you gir you know I eurnor send you perpers in return unlep you would like to have the Dorlland advertiser, which would get to be an all proper by the time it got to you through me. I believe I gave you an account of My succeps on the fourth of July. I do not know, whether it was to you or Charle that I wrote that. It any rate I got more than the mound of flattery has a bouguet sent bue by the lacties from loggen's Hotel Se. Dr. Sir is nor too lite

96 7/15/1853 *From:* O. O. Howard *To:* Dear Brother [RB Howard]

RBH-060 West Point N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

West Point N. Y. July 15th, 1853

My dear brother

Yesterday I got excused from drill on account of a bile and I wrote a long letter to mother. To day I am also excused on the same plea and I will endeavor to make you out one. Now Rowland nothing would be more gratifying to me than to correspond with you regularly, but if you do not get a letter, you may not imagine that you are forgotten -for a day never passes but I think of you, but you must recollect that I am in Camp and that the whole time is taken up from morning till night. At present from about ten minutes after four till ten minutes of five, I have to myself, and if it did not come in the afternoon, I could employ it in writing, but the afternoon is a bad time for me to attempt to write anything, and I get so dreadfully tired every day that I cannot think of writing after taps. Nevertheless I will do my best to fulfill my part.

For the last few days we have had some very hard & dirty work to do at the laboratory. Each set of three makes a fire ball. We first take off coats, roll up our sleeves to the elbow & grease our hands & arms. Then we pulverize 10 lbs. of niter (salt-peter), 6 lbs. of sulfur & two or three lbs. of antimony & mix them together. Melt 1 lb. of beeswax & pour the former mixture into it. Then we take large pieces of canvas & saturate them with boiling tar-pitch-oil &c & lay them together. Then we drive these pieces till they are as hard as leather & sew them after the shoe-makers fashion into the form of a large ball with a narrow neck. This we then put into boiling water, till it is soft & with our hands turn the thing inside out & it is harder & dirtier work than skinning a slippery eel, in a satin vest. Then we place the ball in a block with a mould just big enough to contain the ball, the block being secured with iron hoops. Through the neck that first composition is inserted about a pint at a time. After every dipper full we have to strike twenty-one blows with mallets about as heavy as our old sledgehammer, upon the end of a piece of wood inserted in the neck. This takes a long time. When we get the ball full, it is taken out of its case, looking right plump & round, then we suspend him by the neck and plait around him a network of tarred rope &c. This when complete is what is called a fireball. It can be fired from a mortar to any elevated position where it will burn for some time with an intensely bright light, or it can be thrown into a place, the object being to set something on fire.

We have besides these to make cartridges of all kinds, 300 or 400 apiece, rockets, Roman candles, matches, grape & canister shot &c. My class are now drilling at the mortar battery. As soon as they return, I will have to go with them to the laboratory & work till noon. In the afternoon we have to recite in tactics, infantry one day & artillery the next. We get 30 or 40 pages at a lesson, and have to get it right after dinner when a man is heavy-headed & sleepy. Why I do not get time to read at all. I thought I would have a fine time reading this encampment, but I was mistaken.

I did not know that Lizzie had been sick till you wrote me. I received a letter from her at the same time. I could not tell why I had received no letter for so very long time.

They are firing at the third class battery now, and also at the first-class mortar battery. The latter are firing shells to a barrel set up on a post for a target just to the right of Camp. You can hear the shells whistle along as they come over. A part of them weigh 90 lbs. In war they have put into them about 2 lbs. of powder so as to burst them just after they reach their destination, but we only put in 4 oz. just sufficient to blowout the fuse. The third class are making music, firing just as fast as they can one after another. It would amuse you to see ladies jump at the firings, and it does not help the silly disposition at all to tell them there is not the least danger.

I have received all the papers you have sent me and read them with pleasure. It is queer that I have not told you of it. You know I cannot send you papers in return unless you would like to have the Portland Advertiser, which would get to be an old paper by the time it got to you through me. I believe I gave you an account of my success on the Fourth of July. I do not know, whether it was to you or Charlie that I wrote that. At any rate I got more than the usual amount of flattery, had a bouquet sent me by the ladies from Cozzen's Hotel &c. &c. If it is not too late I wish you would "take my second degree" & pay the price, for you see I have not the three dollars to enclose & I cannot go to get it myself.

Since it will be such a tax upon your finances, I must not urge you to visit me this summer. I wish to see you very much & I wish to see Lizzie too. But I must think of your interest as well as of my pleasure. How long has Lizzie been sick & how sick has she been. They do not tell me such things. I expect it is because I myself am apt to be silent about my ailments unless I am very ill.

Remember me to all my friends. Tell the President if you should happen to talk with him that I wished much to spend this next commencement at Bowdoin, but it is impossible. I hope you will do very well, but I fear to have you study too hard.

I wrote a letter to the last Advertiser giving an account of the death of Cadet Frank of Maine. The editor Mr. Carter prefaced my letter by some appropriate remarks. He himself was here two years, went home on furlough & certain circumstances prevented his returning. Perhaps he got married. I do not know. At least that is a circumstance which would hinder his return most effectually.

Goodbye. I cannot read this over. Write soon.

From your affectionate brother O.O. Howard

in there is day demants The West Soint MAng. 8 33 make new regularisteries surgeles son Their som My dear Brother, Gen ought to have had of this very pleasing, and in I get interest in the love latting from Eaber - regel from coise , mil for Maine supp from Street Marine De - The is now take to the evening a letter before, but as you know very well the reason Manual Sound of my not writing you oftener you will exerce it When I get again in Burracks I will surely write more frequently. Everything at thest Don't gaes on as youalf. I am officer of the day to day, for the day I night following I rank every eader in the. Confort have the wonderful privilege of repor-Ting. It is however no longer a finiting but a duty since me have to certify in writing that we have faithfully discharged our duty change our low In accordance with the Academie Regulations ye. I had a letter from Tissie yesterday. The says who is almost hell, In I her mother are just about starting with challengt on the in of I moves for for Geneston for their healthe. The sund the had just with the lengthere to vial of drawn france france with writter you a few lines so you know all about The journey probably. How are you getting on in College let you pear frinking you am some officer. but now solays! How does Itudying in warm weather of the Mulle year & Easte the Confirmed a till from tables you agree with you? I hope better their with me with the Su We the Effice of the de and he will Chr studying comes in the afternoon from he fritz conting redding his son I moreoning. 1/2 pass 1. tile 4. and during this time I take the no cake lathers from - Your my let I have not much Smily naps I go to sectation with a losson O.O. Honner that is harry passible. One afternoon I got to Sleep after asking comebody to make me a and the second s for minutes before 4. He torges to do so &

got an absence, which is those or six dements. This is all the dement of home seconded as yet. I have her remarkably fortunate their far: He have as I have told you purties monday, wednesday, friday Evenings of Each neck. I go to their very regularly, I never dance any thing has Outstoons but I like to talk with people, It linds to selice the monotony of our every day life. We shall very soon return to Barracks and will have to Study ever harden than ever before for we have more to get, I take things meny hard now ansulthough & how a long leasur to get every afternoon, I scarcely exert my mind at all. I few toger mito mitalent Mabit. Which may hangon after me ges to Sholying the good Earnest. But it is not hear To borrow trouble. I have not give up all hopes of Luing you this summer or full. Vezzu is nor able to mais me now. I am not sertain, but I Think is world he full as pleasant to want me after me go who Barracks as before enly you eved not be so much of me. Now you sould be me in comp several hours every day. To day, your might Name heen with me all day- legesting when I was forming classes of visiting the Sentials. Fawlitte has a mother of sister here none, and I visit then offer When not on chity. The My Santelee) Days I have hun enjaged & years, thinks me a winderful forthigh of Constancy. This of course metation about the I years, and I hope for not such a prodigy as she

would have me, Being a laser Office I have to make new acquaintaines every day, and I find some of their very pleasant. One the I get introthed to some lacties from 6 when next from this . next from Maine - next from Shilistelphia. De ... It is now late in the evening tattoo is gras heating I I must leave you to de this no one is absent from the roll call. Nobody was absent. I got alguarable with a lay the other clay Ams Blip of Dhiladelphier. This the mother of a Chasmale of more, took quite a front to me - com sends me all kinds of nice things, lakes, apples, freaches & e - once She sent me a bunch of Navara ligare. De larr the pather of my tent male from Virginia also gave me a bunch of mythere ones. I will til the Countersign - you can come into lawfe if you will come before morning. It is seventy Dix- now you must not tell anybody. If you would to come. The Sentine will chalange you, the Domes there canoner freed meth the Countersign. He will say; advance freend with the Countersign. If you are right military he will let you past. Thinking you am some officer - but if he halts you & each the Corporal - title the latter you with ho see the the office of the day and he will he forthe cowing rubbing this lyes I wondering. Who eath, calling how - good night I have not much The till you - except I come mell - I want to trear Mas Lezzie is entirely well- god plup you _ " Ir offictional trothe Delitowan

97 8/3/1853 *From:* O. O. Howard

RBH-061 West Point N.Y. Brunswick, Maine

Source: Bowdoin

West Point N.Y. Aug. 3d '53

My dear Brother,

You ought to have had a letter before, but as you know very well the reason of my not writing you oftener, you will excuse it. When I get again in Barracks I will surely write more frequently. Everything at West Point goes on as usual. I am Officer of the day today, for the day & night following. I rank every cadet in the Corps & have the wonderful privilege of reporting. It is however no longer a privilege, but a duty since we have to certify in writing that we have faithfully discharged our duty during our tour in accordance with the Academic regulations &c.

To: Mr. RB Howard

I had a letter from Lizzie yesterday. She says she is almost well. She & her mother are just about starting for Lewiston for their health. She said she had just written you a few lines, so you know all about the journey probably. How are you getting on in College nowadays? How does studying in warm weather agree with you? I hope better than with me. Our studying comes in the afternoon from 1/2 past one till four and during that time I take sundry naps & go to recitation with a lesson that is hardly passible. One afternoon I got to sleep after asking somebody to wake me a few minutes before four. He forgot to do so & I got an absence, which is three or six demerit. This is all the demerit I have recorded as yet. I have been remarkably fortunate thus far.

We have as I have told you parties Monday, Wednesday, Friday evenings of each week. I go to them very regularly. I never dance anything but Cotillions, but I like to talk with people. It tends to relieve the monotony of our everyday life. We shall very soon return to Barracks and will have to study even harder than ever before for we have more to get.

I take things very easily now and although I have a long lesson to get every afternoon, I scarcely exert my mind at all. I fear to get into indolent habits, which may hang on after we get to studying in good earnest. But it is not best to borrow trouble. I have not given up all hopes of seeing you this summer or fall. Lizzie is not able to visit me now. I am not certain, but I think it would be full as pleasant to visit me after we go into barracks as before, only you could not see so much of me. Now you could see me in Camp several hours every day. To day you might have been with me all day, excepting when I was forming classes & visiting the sentinels.

Sawtelle has a mother & sister here now, and I visit them often when not on duty. She (Miss Sawtelle) says I have been engaged eight years, thinks me a wonderful prodigy of Constancy. She is of course mistaken about the eight years, and I hope I am not such a prodigy as she would have me.

Being a Cadet Officer I have to make new acquaintances every day, and I find some of them very pleasant. One day I get introduced to some ladies from Cuba, next from Ohio, next from Maine, next from Philadelphia, etc.

It is now late in the evening, tattoo is just beating & I must leave you to see that no one is absent from the roll call. Nobody was absent. I got acquainted with a lady the other day Mrs. Blix of Philadelphia. She is the mother of a classmate of mine, took quite a fancy to me, and sends me all kinds of nice things, cakes, apples, peaches &c. Once she sent me a bunch of Havana cigars. Dr. Carr the father of my tent mate from Virginia also gave me a bunch of right nice ones.

I will tell the countersign. You can come into Camp if you will come before morning. It is seventy-six. Now you must not tell anybody. If you conclude to come, the Sentinel will challenge you: who comes there? Answer: friend with the countersign. He will say: Advance friend with the countersign. If you are right military he will let you pass thinking you are some officer, but if he halts you & calls the Corporal, tell the latter you wish to see the Officer of the day, and he will be forthcoming, rubbing his eyes & wondering who can be calling him.

Good night. I have not much to tell you, except I am well. I want to hear that Lizzie is entirely well. God bless you.

Yr affectionate brother

O.O. Howard

[Envelope] Mr. RB Howard Brunswick, Maine much in the love and manner of her letters. I have conjection everything immagined that something I have suis, written or the was the lance - The has offen expressed the wish thus She was only my bookers. Now of wares I would get in a passion - but when I found from every melecation that ther love for me was in no way chimeniched. I would get over is. Now this change commenced at the time Perlips difficulty I separation from Annie Burtlett, Acque took place. I could not suspect her loving him but she specke in terms of feles that and not arouse my paloney, but made me fear that she was not sufficiently quarting a heart What should be mine - Itolo her so and forball her to speak this again. The said it was wrong I the mould not I this the did it mirely this I might with just such a letter as I liv. This is merely fore bining to give you some ille why I would feel bally from The following. The next day after you left I tout from The Office a alegraphic dispotete, director to Gircie in my Cane. I peared something unusual had happened I I opened ir. It contained these mond: her deliterately without regard to me, I have done wrong! P. I was astounded. How to interpret such a message I knew not. At first I was angry. Upon reflection it concluded it must have her had reference to come business of which I was ignorant and which die not everen me: Eless he would not have been De importeur as to have directed the same to my care - and after all, I waked, wash not the hear freed & new our of my own words " I car my note of yesterdy will be mesunder stow waries is had

LESS THE TOO FILE THOUGHT IN THE WAS T 336 9 40 34 3 B43 2 6 8 43 4 2 3 3 2 am off of the day to day and bring Stationed here in the Enand worm, Plan find no Wester employment curing my chart intervals of Leisure Than writing you a few lines. I have not written you Since you returned home and probably you are already & I taking me for my negligence. I have her expecting every Adday to hear from you I wished you to give me a cletarled NR Spaceount of your journey. I dis get a few lines from Cizele is got loon after the reached home - The said little about her fourney. Ian "Kroland will tall you what a poor miserable girl I am! Hom pisit here was not so pleasunt as it I sught to have then. The I have considerable time to I see you as the Hotel, I did not show you would thest Lour so much as I wished I had previously intended - Get How will Jorque in as you know how my hands were Thes: Mon have formed a good idea of my situation I'd A 200 Doing generally. You visited the Constal Dalace, some Leen a little of the lit of new york - and perhaps I am the whole your visit how firely will, if it left your health unimpaired as I hope is did. Non have long I before this in all probability resumed your stricties at Bourdon's and are now like me poring over your books. I have I had anything but good luck in my studies since you left. We . (civil)

prisher, Engeneering the first of last week (over the first time) and commenced the first class drawings. The first thing we draw is a land lock in plan elevation of crop section -In give you some illed of my success we this department I mile describe to you in a word my week's worke. Me Commenced budnesdy morning and drew daily from 8 title M. Nome hours: I was apparently doing finel. To be dure I had made about everyother live over horse or three times. and to one less experiences in my drawings than myself might have had difficulty in determining which line was which ". It any rate I had some hundreds of lines drawn when yesterday I chisewered that a couple of my principle lines were slightly our of place. I carried to my metructor of tuld him of my mistake & asked what I should do . Rub our all your work dir & begin again!" I did so thew three or four lines - The bugle blew of me left the sendency. Here I am today on thity as officer of the day: a week herma the whole class with my drawing paper creased all with deep pensil munks. Now you see to have broken of Smoking some time since have nothing to lovable me -Hes I have somewhat. Next Iware keeps getting neaver of nearer. Nil despertantion! I will come out somewhere y live just as long as if & how done this year as well as I ought to have done of was expected to do. (Thursday. Ocr. 13.) I evale not ger hime to write you more while on duty mattle I was altogether to The to think or to write. Inspecting burracks so many

times almost uses me up. Aux I am realis now y Embrace the fires offortunity of to finish my letter and acknowledge the receipt of a letter from you which I got yesterday. I was very happy to get your letter, but was a little disuppointed because you saw so little about your journey. This however is only because I am so silly. I remember Drof. Boody with all his excentricities or, if you will with all his faults. We see the Professors in a little different light after we are free from their coversights immediate supervision, and come to took upon Then at a distance. Their fullings vanish into air or are remembered as pleasant distinguishing preculearities which hardly are thought of when we estimate the men under whose tuition we have been. I wish I evals never how a worse man to deal with the our Rev. Khetweerin -Domposity & bandy can be purcloved, while it is laughed at. When it can do you no harm - but in one of our instruction here or governors, it becomes mon maliquant and opprepion. There is a little matter Bowland That his close as my heart. Mas I would like to confide to you. I did not mean to do it and for the world I would not have you mention is hi any person bining. I am almost ashame to brough The subject, because my character is ofen V unsuspecting y I world least of all improfs my brother with a contrary opinion, but I will nor excite your enrivaily. It is this. Vizin thus been for a long while very unhappy crifferent from her former self- She has acknowledged the fact but par not as she should have can done confider to me the lause. The has change much very

98 10/11/1853 *From:* [O O Howard]

To: Dear Brother [RB Howard]

RBH-062 West Point N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

West Point N.Y. Oct. 11th 1853

My dear brother

I am Off. of the day to day and being stationed here in the Guard room, I can find no better employment during my short intervals of leisure than writing you a few lines. I have not written you since you returned home, and probably you are already rating me for my negligence. I have been expecting every day to hear from you. I wish you to give me a detailed account of your journey. I did get a few lines from Lizzie soon after she reached home. She said little about her journey, said "Rowland will tell you what a poor miserable girl I am."

Your visit here was not so pleasant as it ought to have been. Tho. I had considerable time to see you at the Hotel, I did not show you round West Point so much as I wished & had previously intended. Yet you will forgive it as you know how my hands were tied. You have formed a good idea of my situation & of West Point generally. You visited the Crystal Palace, have seen a little of the city of New York, and perhaps on the whole your visit paid pretty well, if it left your health unimpaired as I hope it did. You have long before this in all probability resumed your studies at Bowdoin, and are now like me poring over your books.

I have had anything but good luck in my studies since you left. We finished (Civil) Engineering the first of last week (over the first time) and commenced the first class drawings. The first thing we draw is a Canal lock in plan elevation & cross-section. To give you some idea of my success in this department I will describe to you in a word my week's work. We commenced Wednesday morning and drew daily from 8 till 11, three hours. I was apparently doing finely. To be sure I had made about every other line over twice or three times. And one less experienced in my drawings than myself might have had difficulty in determining "which line was which". At any rate I had some hundreds of lines drawn, when yesterday I discovered that a couple of my principle lines were slightly out of place. I carried them to my instructor & told him of my mistake & asked what I should do. "Rub out all your work Sir & begin again." I did so, drew three or four lines. The bugle blew & we left the Academy.

Here I am to day on duty as Officer of the day; a week behind the whole class with my drawing paper creased all up with deep pencil marks. Now you see I have broken of smoking some time since have nothing to console me. Yes I have somewhat. Next June keeps getting nearer & nearer. Nil desperandum! I will come out somewhere & live just as long as if I had done this year as well as I ought to have done & was expected to do.

(Thursday, Oct. 13)

I could not get time to write you more while on duty until I was altogether too tired to think or to write. Inspecting barracks so many times almost uses me up. But I am rested now & embrace the first opportunity to finish my letter and acknowledge the receipt of a letter from you which I got yesterday. I was very happy to get your letter, but was a little disappointed because you said so little about your journey. This however is only because I am so silly.

I remember Prof. Boody with all his eccentricities or, if you will, with all his faults. We see the professors in a little different light after we are free from their immediate supervision, and come to look upon them at a distance. Their failings vanish into air, or are remembered as pleasant distinguishing peculiarities which hardly are thought of when we estimate the men under whose tuition we have been. I wish I could never have a worse man to deal with than our Rev. Rhetorician. Pomposity & vanity can be pardoned, while it is laughed at, when it can do you no harm. But in one of our instructors here or Governors, it becomes more malignant and oppressive.

There is a little matter Rowland that lies close at my heart, that I would like to confide to you. I did not mean to do it and for the world I would not have you mention it to any person living. I am almost ashamed to broach the subject, because my character is open & unsuspecting & I would least of all impress my brother with a contrary opinion, but I will not excite your curiosity. It is this. Lizzie has been for a long while very unhappy, different from her former self. She has acknowledged the fact, but has not, as she should have done, confided to me the cause. She has changed much, very much in the tone and manner of her letters. I have conjectured everything,

imagined that something I had said, written or done was the cause. She has often expressed the wish that she was only my sister. Now of course I would get in a passion, but when I found from every indication that her love for me was in no way diminished, I would get over it. Now this change commenced at the time Perley's difficulty & separation from Annie Bartlett took place. I could not suspect her loving him, but she spoke in terms of Peleg, that did not arouse my jealousy, but made me fear that she was not sufficiently guarding a heart that should be mine. I told her so and forbade her to speak this again. She said it was wrong & she would not & that she did it merely that I might write just such a letter as I did.

This is merely preliminary to give you some idea why I would feel badly from the following. The next day after you left I took from the office a telegraphic dispatch directed to Lizzie in my care. I feared something unusual had happened & I opened it. It contained these words: "Act deliberately without regard to me, I have done wrong. P-." I was astounded. How to interpret such a message I knew not. At first I was angry. Upon reflection I concluded it must have had reference to some business of which I was ignorant and which did not concern me. Else he would not have been so imprudent as to have directed the same to my care, and after all, I asked, was he not the best friend I had out of my own family? The next day I received another dispatch with these words "Fear my note of yesterday will be misunderstood. Consider it had never been said."

I received the catalog of the Ath. Soc. [Athenaean Society] That history of her rise & progress was quite interesting. I hope her present members will cease wrangling & promote her interests at the same time with their own by helping her to fulfill the legitimate object of her establishment.

Chap my roommate wishes me to give his best respects, or as he says - remember me to him kindly.

Tell Wood if he thinks of coming here (I believe he is with you yet) to pay great attention to his first-class or rather senior course. Before getting through here he will find it of the greatest advantage, especially all he may know of the exact sciences.

[No closing]

Mest From N.G. Get 20th . 58-

Received your seconnable letter this noon, Iam sorry that what I wrote you should have Noutles you for I know that the student above all human heings should have a slear hear y a mind unvecupied by things foreign to his structus. Do not imagin my clear brother for an instant that I believe you would trifle with my feelings. When I have heen serious with you I have never known you otherwise. What I meant was what I wrote that I would as hif you long her as not. How know are in my circumstances may suffer himself hi be larried away by his Julings and I thought perhaps you might book whom the matter & presented to your in a less Serious light, I was disposed to view is. I weart to miphy nothing. I always smile at Lizzies idea of your proposite predisposition to sidicule as to criticism as she you terms is. I received a letter from her yesterday. The Said. I will say a few words on a subject I could not brough if things were not just as they are. You must not entertain hard or unkind pulings in the least towards him. I Can say that he has never done anything to injure you in any way : although some things many look dants of Anspicious to your, to me they are perfectly plain and no Hame can be attached to him. Believe what I have said, and did you know more you would say if any one is faully it is it wholly I and you would not repeat I have unshaken confidence in you Lizzie." This is all she wrote in

answer to my letters. Her letter was long and a good one. Ihr has been confined to her hed the morning the time since you were there Her eagle is much more. What will here of the pour child I know not. If she were well and able The hear is you know what my reply would be for the is here my heart strings asunder I would write Lissie. you do not consider me wintly of confidence and unlap you explain to me all from the moment of your weather of This we are deparate. I would do it at once how I dane not less perchance & may be electived. and she could, not bear the Shock - No, you must not ask her to tite you. I would not wish to know this way. It must come from her lips or her pen direct to me. There is really no deleption in Vizzie's character - The conto not decime me did the purpose it. I have followed is all. I have known the untoward influences under which she has been thrown. I have in part lanced her to love Derley or come her sisterly affection for him to assume its present expect; because I was hashy and perhaps irasoible - sometimes even peremptony. The Bowland I have corriven her heart from me and for this I am to blame -She knows however, that I would sacrifice my life for herthat I love her with a whole heart. The still has an officily for me - if I could be with - her I could soon by gentling I Kindness win back her entire confidence. But I am too independent in office to shave her affection with another. I will title you honesty that as much as I low Livin Waite: the Me bends are higher around my heart. The she is part & pascel of every hope, of every thought the ifir

could be brought about I would be willing to see ther the happy wife of D. S. Derely for I know that of the loves him it is for her happines, and my happiness is of little account in the b-alance. I do not hate him . I lannot . I have written him a short letter demanding an explanation. He will give it for he knows me too well to refuse it. Lay nothing to anybody. To Mother or Charlie. I shall aways wet with judgment, for when I am in a rage I will not write -I shall continue to write to vivie . perhaps differently. then before, but if she closs not love me over much the will scarcely observe the change - To not think I intered any Continued deception - no four open as the day . but I would not have her les her course be what is may. In this confiding in you I do no wrong for if I did not confide in you in whom should I. Its would frighten mother No Weath. for she does not know my statisty of character or my ferredness of purpose like you or if she knows them She will always let over wiriely-clestroy her heaver Not long can any neverses theep my apirito down. I am not like Derley. I do not need his sympathy as he over du mine or his advise & conversation to keep me who. - This life is before me and an Eternity towards which I am verging or ruther the beginning of which is now. I must he an upright & useful man. Let not dissipation or gloom over show ow my spirit. Bur Oh! the hopes thecler chairhed hopes of a domestic character-almost were they Julfilled & god in his wiedon Duo fit to does that cup of happeness from my lips. Meg he nor-My likenes is still on her boson. hundreds of letters - the outfourings

of a heart fall affection of larnear love are in her little box. The lannor more without being reminded of the past - weeking and unchangable I have stood by her. She cannot fraint to a Ingle unkindness or neglect. Before me is my measure box evanued full of those gentle messengers that have allaged all asperities in my patts. What have made my spirits spring forth exultant I my soul bound with joy - that have lightened my task I hade ne anward; right owward! The book of poems marked for my eye alone - the little bible that I have loved to pieruse; when not for itself because it was the how of gov: for her take A has not been neglected. Atominiative No me so heautiful his quiety before me in my hoy - I Connor more but I am reminder of Livie. Why they should This chrom he broken. It may not . Her my brother I am a man. I will act as as man. This trial may be the making of we it may back me nor to idolize anything but Him who is from I holy - My Little brother is wiser than " 8. He has fortified himself this Early against all contingences. He wile of he lives make a good I neefel man - He said in his letter to me that he should write to you. He is very nappy - not excited for it is not his nature - but he is a Christian with enthusiaen in its place, pressing a study of ealow determination to lead a christian's life. Do not be auxious for me. Let what will turn up & shall remain as I com - with a heart full of affection for my brothers neither over glowing I not in the least misanthropic your offectioned brother - 03 Howard. My room- made wishes to be remembered to you kindly.

99 10/20/1853 *From:* O. O. Howard

To: Dear Brother [RB Howard]

RBH-063

West Point N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

West Point N.Y. Oct. 20th 53

My dear brother,

I received your seasonable letter this noon, I am sorry that what I wrote you should have troubled you, for I know that the student above all human beings should have a clear head & a mind unoccupied by things foreign to his studies. Do not imagine my dear brother for an instant, that I believed you would trifle with my feelings. When I have been serious with you I have never known you otherwise. What I meant was what I wrote, that I would as lief you laughed as not. You know one in my circumstances may suffer himself to be carried away by his feelings, and I thought perhaps you might look upon the matter I presented to you in a less serious light than I was disposed to view it. I meant to imply nothing. I always smile at Lizzie's idea of your predisposition to ridicule or to criticism as she terms it.

I received a letter from her yesterday. She said: "I will say a few words on a subject I could not broach if things were not just as they are. You must not entertain hard or unkind feelings in the least towards him. I can say that he has never done anything to injure you in any way although some things may look dark & suspicious to you, to me they are perfectly plain and no blame can be attached to him. Believe what I have said, and did you know more you would say if anyone is faulty it is wholly I, and you would not repeat "I have unshaken confidence in you Lizzie." This is all she wrote in answer to my letters. Her letter was long and a good one. She has been confined to her bed the most of the time since you were there. Her cough is much worse. What will become of the poor child I know not. If she were well and able to bear it you know what my reply would be, for tho it tore my heartstrings asunder I would write: Lizzie, You do not consider me worthy of confidence and unless you explain to me all from the moment of your reception of this we are separate. I would do it at once but I dare not lest perchance I may be deceived, and she could not bear the shock.

No, you must not ask her to tell you. I would not wish to know that way. It must come from her lips or her pen directly to me. There is really no deception in Lizzie's character. She could not deceive me did she purpose it. I have followed it all. I have known the untoward influences under which she has been thrown. I have in part caused her to love Perley or caused her sisterly affection for him to assume its present aspect; because I was hasty and perhaps irascible - sometimes even peremptory. Yes Rowland I have driven her heart from me and for this I am to blame. She knows, however, that I would sacrifice my life for her, that I love her with a whole heart. She still has an affinity for me, if I could be with her I could soon by gentleness & kindness win back her entire confidence. But I am too independent in spirit to share her affection with another.

I will tell you honestly that as much as I love Lizzie Waite, tho the bonds are tight around my heart, tho she is part & parcel of every hope, of every thought, still if it could be brought about I would be willing to see her the happy wife of P.S. Perley, for I know that if she loves him it is for her happiness, and my happiness is of little account in the balance. I do not hate him - I cannot. I have written him a short letter demanding an explanation. He will give it for he knows me too well to refuse it. Say nothing to anybody, to mother or Charlie. I shall aways act with judgment, for when I am in a rage I will not write. I will continue to write to Lizzie, perhaps differently than before, but if she does not love me over-much she will scarcely observe the change. Do not think I intend any continued deception, no I am open as the day, but I would not harm her, let her course be what it may.

In this confiding in you I do no wrong for if I did not confide in you in whom should I. It would frighten mother to death, for she does not know my stability of character or my fixedness of purpose like you or if she knows them she will always let over-anxiety destroy her peace. Not long can any reverses keep my spirits down. I am not like Perley. I do not need his sympathy as he once did mine or his advice & conversation to keep me up. This life is before me and an Eternity towards which I am verging or rather the beginning of which is now. I must be an upright & useful man. Let not dissipation or gloom over shadow my spirit. But oh! The hopes the dear cherished hopes of a domestic character, almost were they fulfilled & God in his wisdom sees fit to dash that cup of happiness from my life.

Maybe not. My likeness is still on her bosom, hundreds of letters, the outpourings of a heart full of affection &

earnest love are in her little box. She cannot move without being reminded of the past, unchanged and unchangeable I have stood by her. She cannot point to a single unkindness or neglect. Before me is my treasure box crammed full of those gentle messengers that have allayed all asperities in my path, that have made my spirits spring forth exultant & my soul bound with joy, that have lightened my task & bade me onward; right onward! The book of poems marked for my eye alone, the little Bible that I have loved to peruse; when not for itself because it was the word of God, for her sake it has not been neglected. Her miniature to me so beautiful lies quietly before me in my box. I can not move but I am reminded of Lizzie. Why! Why should this dream be broken. It may not. Yet my brother I am a man. I will act as a man. This trial may be the making of me, it may teach me not to idolize anything but Him who is pure & holy.

My little brother is wiser than I. He has fortified himself this early against all contingencies. He will if he lives make a good & useful man. He said in his letter to me that he should write to you. He is very happy, not excited for it is not his nature, but he is a Christian with enthusiasm in its place, pressing in steady & calm determination to lead a Christian's life.

Do not be anxious for me. Let what will turn up I shall remain as I am, with a heart full of affection for my brothers, neither over gloomy & not in the least misanthropic.

Your affectionate brother O.O. Howard

My room-mate wishes to be remembered to you kindly.

The way of the first of the form of the fo Is to Mother on to Charlie & one to you . The two former I aught to write first because I received them first. his hat as it is survey afternoon of I have a bad well 30 I can write you better than them for I have made a Eon fidents of you & not of the nexpecting the resent occurrences Inhich I compets have been slightly briga with romance. I must again indicat that you mention or thing of what Is till you a this matter. Though you felt you were closing the same for my good. The second atter I wook orley he die not receive before he had replied to my finer. The first reply was conclud in a Style Similar to the letter he was answering which was not written in a very mile or concillating spirit, but the suone one which I received a few deft after was very different, and Showed in a streking manner how miserable this unhuppy I so affair has made them both. He says I have just reveal your kind many I more than frank letter and the time Six so frank . so friends , so forgaving I forget the of self brought hars to my eyes burning lears and sadous & self reproaching 3 stronghts to my heart de ge . And non Howard I will The you the hath do far as I can make it appear to you & so far as I shall attempt now, for I cannot lette you all I feel V think and know about it tonight. ye - I was

just aware that Livie cared anything for we like a day or two before the ment up to Luds preparating to her setting our for great Davis this is the fact. I had long known that she was interested in my welfame fell attached to me as her friend of Ix your friend, but I nover suspected that the loved we till then I never dreamed of the thing, that Such could possibly be the I case the one evening just as I was going to the office Line was Inwell & I stepped nito the parter to be how the was. I found the had hun coging I misished on knowing the cause; and then the thought which the would not own troke whom me: I said for God's take what have you her loving me for . The Said the could not help is revealing to me the fact fairly and I broke down giving away to a burst of grief for her I for you as I I thought of the unhapping & suffering that might be In stone for her of perhaps still more for you such as I never indulged in for myself. Il --After I had discovered that The Good me. This her pears was not wholly yours as it ought to have been, I must everyets. presuming somewhat on my past failt plants. I suffered mydely . ruther inspite of myself seones not help a hove awakining for her in return I sory and to day is I die not enceal from her The fact. He acknowledges this & their, lette me of this conflict he had before the right gained the mastery in a very affectionale of touching manner - I die wrong . Howard, to give I way for a moment to a love which came to me so enexpectedly & at e time when I thought it apisted not for me, but bitterly have I atones for the wrong of now my air is to make you separation by endeavoring to reston her health & by lating her thoughts from herself and fivering their on Ajects without her to break who the morbed & monatorious love of her isless. I do lowk, Howard, to her happing, & to yours, and I know that I would never be happy; that the sould never be so the sould never be happy; that the sould never be surely of heaving down right ye. Madays I wish Gizzie to love you I know the does much - de - I will strive to leach her to give you have heart once more as of all I do you not reject her live." I answered this letter some portions of which I have copier. I made a greater effort in dung it them I ever dis before in my life. I had already wrother a long letter to Living plainty the whole thing, and how much misery was in ston for no if things evalued as they are I Then I asked the More questions. 1stif the wishes to witinu car convection ye. I if the hour me I would be happy that our linion should take place of third if the bound me town their her cousin. These were the questions in Intestance which I mister on her answering of the was able. I felt while of was writing that is was the last or wearf the last letter I should write to the one I hav Molized so much - When I answered Derleys letter - I showed him how futile were his kine effects in my behalf. how they would produce just the result he wished to avoid - It said this had made him resulve to leave Doolland. I showed him how usely this slep would be - I die not let him she my heart at all but employed all the reason I evil muster - to prove to him if possible in what direction his duty now his. I had him that my everse would not offset Livis louseweents of Maing down right or wrong to assure her that no great unhappiness bould be in store for me selected as I am - I evel fill my with When objects . de - I hold him that our evametion was classolved of hearned him not to spew his time in theging to throw me, box I saw in what my thing to Give I my self consisted. has made wife my mind that we must part. The last deutero of my letter hear the hardeas to write "you leaves think you

Are robbing me of myown, for Lizzie M. is no longer mine - I tale him to suke an apportunity when Lizzie heat evel hear it of break this news to her to save her the from the bither task of answering my letter. She received my atter Wellnesdy or Thursday of he gas the on I wook him friday or staturday. - Du nor I pay you, speak of liver as indelicate ve. The was trying to do her duly as the conseived it. Derly's kindoups to her while she wesill I at all office trues won her affection, though the struggled againer is. And has he have other Man Kind to her I would have resented is. It is an unfortunal of an unhappy phase in our ling but I trust Drovidine will ourrile it to our best good. I want none to know the course of our deparation, except that I have down it. The it will not injure. but she could not hear to how the report go forthe ther she has jetter me - or derley that he had betraged the emfidence & place in him & suppleated in. This might be the evastruction that ofhers sould put refer the matter trus The Muth is here I diseavered that it hould not be for our Alternal happiness for Sizzie & myself to many & so I track the connection. The if the should wisher or denient is I will keep my engagement for I hold my provises seems - but Revolued & presume - it is over - I loved New deeply of truly - her I have the left trans than they and my out has been less bitter . I have been schooled in bearing chasppointments & having my wishes loutrouerte. I have pergiven Vizzie her westenege and Devely never has willings come me an injury. I do not yer July malize the step I have taken for I have all her letters her miniative . Whi hook of poems of the little Bille with hundreds of little Kupsakes - the last strugle I will have before I have sutirely

100 11/13/1853 *From:* Otis [O. O. Howard]

To: Dear Brother [RB Howard]

RBH-064 West Point N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

West Point N.Y. Nov. 13th '53

My dear brother

I owe three letters, one to Mother, one to Charlie & one to you. The two former I ought to write first because I received them first, but as it is Sunday afternoon & I have a bad cold I can write you better than them, for I have made a confident of you & not of them respecting the recent occurrences which I confess have been slightly tinged with romance. I must again insist that you mention nothing of what I tell you in this matter though you felt you were doing the same for my good.

The second letter I wrote Perley he did not receive before he had replied to my first. The first reply was couched in a style similar to the letter he was answering, which was not written in a very mild or conciliatory spirit, but the second one which I received a few days after was very different, and showed in a striking manner how miserable this unhappy affair has made them both. He says "I have just reread your kind, manly & more than frank letter and the tone of it so frank, so friendly, so forgiving & forgetful of self brought tears to my eyes, burning tears, and sadness & self reproaching thoughts to my heart &c. &c. and now Howard I will tell you the truth so far as I can make it appear to you & so far as I shall attempt now, for I cannot tell you all I feel & think and know about it tonight &c.

I was not aware that Lizzie cared anything for me till a day or two before she went up to Leeds preparatory to her setting out for West Point. This is the fact. I had long known that she was interested in my welfare, felt attached to me as her friend & your friend, but I never suspected that she loved me till then, never dreamed of the thing, that such could possibly be the case, until one evening just as I was going to the office Lizzie was unwell & I stepped into the parlor to see how she was. I found she had been crying & insisted on knowing the cause; and then the thought which she would not own broke upon me. I said "for God's sake what have you been loving me for". She said she could not help it, revealing to me the fact fairly and I broke down, giving away to a burst of grief for her & for you as I thought of the unhappiness & suffering that might be in store for her & perhaps still more for you, such as I never indulged in for myself, &c. After I had discovered that she loved me, that her heart was not wholly yours as it ought to have been, I must confess, presuming somewhat on my past faithfulness, I suffered myself rather in spite of myself I could not help a love awakening for her in return & sorry am I to say it did not conceal from her the fact--"

He acknowledges this & then tells me of the conflict he had before the right gained the mastery in a very affectionate & touching manner. "I did wrong, Howard, to give way for a moment to a love which came to me so unexpectedly & at a time when I thought it existed not for me, but literally have I atoned for the wrong & now my aim is to make you reparation by endeavoring to restore her health & by taking her thoughts from herself and forcing them on objects without her to break up the morbid & monotonous tone of her ideas. I do look, Howard, to her happiness & to yours, and I know that I could never be happy; that she could never be so, without the consciousness of having done right &c. He says, I wish Lizzie to love you. I know she does much etc. I will strive to teach her to give you her whole heart once more as of old & do you not reject her love." I answered this letter some portions of which I have copied. I made a greater effort in doing it than I ever did before in my life.

I had already written a long letter to Lizzie stating plainly the whole thing, and how much misery was in store for us if things continued as they are & then I asked her three questions. 1st if she wished to continue our connection &c. 2d if she loved me & would be happy that our union should take place & third if she loved me more than her cousin. These were the questions in substance which I insisted on her answering if she was able. I felt while I was writing that it was the last or nearly the last letter I should write to the one I had idolized so much. When I answered Perley's letter, I showed him how futile were his kind efforts in my behalf, how they would produce just the result he wished to avoid. He said this had made him resolve to leave Portland. I showed him how useless that step would be. I did not let him see my heart at all, but employed all the reason I could muster, to prove to him, if possible, in what direction his duty now lies. I told him that my course would not affect Lizzie's consciousness of having done right or wrong - to assure her that no great unhappiness could be in store for me situated as I am. I could fill my mind with other objects &c. I told him that our (Lizzie's & mine)

connection was dissolved & warned him not to spend his time in trying to turn me, for I saw in what my duty to Lizzie & myself consisted., Had made up my mind that we must part. The last sentence of my letter was the hardest to write. You cannot think you are robbing me of my own, for Lizzie W is no longer mine. I told him to seek an opportunity when Lizzie best could bear it & break this news to her, to save her the pain the bitter task of answering my letter. She received my letter Wednesday or Thursday & he got the one I wrote him Friday or Saturday

Do not, I pray you, speak of Lizzie as indelicate etc. She was trying to do her duty as she conceived it. Perley's kindness to her while she was ill & at all other times won her affection, though she struggled against it. And had he been other than kind to her I would have resented it. It is an unfortunate & an unhappy phase in our lives but I trust Providence will overrule it to our best good. I want none to know the cause of our separation, except that I have done it. Me it will not injure, but she could not bear to have the report go forth that she had jilted me, or Perley that he had betrayed the confidence I placed in him & supplanted me. This might be the construction that others would put upon the matter, but the truth is here. I discovered that it would not be for our ultimate happiness for Lizzie & myself to marry & so I break the connection.

True if she should wish it or demand it I will keep my engagement, for I hold my promises sacred, but Rowland, I presume it is over. I loved her deeply & truly, but I have shed less tears than they, and my cup has been less bitter. I have been schooled in bearing disappointments & having my wishes controverted. I have forgiven Lizzie her weakness and Perley never has willingly done me an injury. I do not yet fully realize the step I have taken, for I have all her letters, her miniature, the book of poems & the little Bible with hundreds of little keepsakes, the last struggle I will have before I have entirely conquered myself will be when I have to give them up. She may come back to me & even fancy she loves me as of old when she sees before her the consequences of all this, when she thinks of the scandal it will create, but whether this be so or no the cup of happiness in its fullness that I have coveted & expected has been dashed from my lips.

Perhaps it will be better for me & for her in the end. It will teach us many a useful lesson. I do not wish you or Mother or Charlie to think hardly of her & you will not if you know her character as well as I. I know it is unusual for one in my fix to speak thus, but it is as I feel. She has intended to fulfill her vows to the letter & would have done so without a word of complaint, but fortune has ordered it otherwise.

Be not troubled for me, you would find me the same as you always have - cheerful, hopeful, & far from discouraged.

Yr affectionate brother Otis

I will tell you if I hear more from them. Keep dark. I will tell Mother & Charlie myself in my own way if the matter is closed as I anticipate.