Bowd. Coll. May. 11.

[1854]

My dear Mother

Your very affectionate & welcome letter was not received until a day after I wrote you, but, coming at any time, they always give me pleasure. You spoke of many things which I should like to answer, at length. But I shall be with you so soon, and talking is easier than writing, ~~that~~ I will defer my reply until I meet you tête à tête —

You may be assured Mother that Ellis will do well enough. The source of the most of your fears for his success is in his lacking a little World wisdom. Contact with the World — actual experience alone can give him this. and I have no doubt that he will be an apt Scholar. In the first place, his impulses are all on the right side, and then, when he does reason. He thinks methodically & correctly — He has a steadfastness of purpose — a frankness of disposition which will always win and retain friends. While he lacks those brilliant talents which are calculated to astonish and dazzle, he has more valuable ones which will secure him a quiet but certain advancement in whatever he undertakes,

If I understand you fear that he is not economical enough, that he is too free hearted, too generous, or as you would say, too thoughtless— I know that your ideas and mine differ a little on this point and I will not enlarge further. It is true that neither Otis nor myself are rich enough to indulge in that amount of expenditure, which many of those, with whom we associate are accustomed to do— Otis will never attempt this. If alone, he will have no pecuniary troubles after his graduation. How a man is influenced by a family— I don't know— and I regard the experiment too dangerous, for one of my weak mind and weaker purse to try—

Otis will probably consult his heart alone, and try it. But no more of this till I see you

We went after our Trees yesterday, and they have been set out today in the College Yard. We went about 12 miles and had a hard days work, the whole class engaged in it and there were no Recitations, the Sophmore classes always get trees one day in May—

I am in hopes that these warm sunny days are settling the Roads and fitting the ground for the Springs work. We saw one man planting corn in Bowdoinham,

The Mail goes in a little while and I have no time to ~~answer~~ write farther. My wants as to money are, as near as I can estimate, as follows— I have the items on paper but will not set them down as it will take time— I shall need fifteen dollars to pay the bills necessary for me to pay this Term— I wish Father to mail this on Monday if he can, for I am in hopes to get away Wednesday noon, so as to reach Lewis in the P.M. Train. If I cannot, I will come Thursday morning.

Never mind sending to the Depot. I will walk down, and then my trunk can come any time— If there is anything you wish me to do for you in Brunswick, just mention it in the letter. With much love I remain

Yours affectionately

Rowland

Mrs John Gilmore

P.S. I intend that you shall receive this Saturday, if you do not till Monday, send the letter as early as possible and I will come home as soon as I can

R

106 5/11/1854 ***From:*** Rowland [RB Howard] ***To:*** Mrs. John Gilmore

RBH-071

Bowd Coll

Source: Bowdoin

Bowd Coll May 11 [1854]

My dear Mother

Your very affectionate & welcome letter was not received until a day after I wrote you, but, coming at any time, they always give me pleasure. You spoke of many things which I should like to answer at length but I shall be with you so soon, and talking is easier than writing, so I will defer my reply until I meet you "tete a tete".

You may be assured mother that Otis will do well enough. The source of the most of your fears for his success is in his lacking a little World wisdom. Contact with the World-actual experience alone can give him this, and I have no doubt that he will be an apt Scholar. In the first place, his impulses are all on the right side, and then, when he does reason, he thinks methodically & correctly. He has a steadfastness of purpose, a frankness of disposition which will always win and retain Friends. While he lacks those brilliant talents which are calculated to astonish and dazzle, he has more valuable ones which will secure him a quiet but certain advancement in whatever he undertakes.

If I understand, you fear that he is not economical enough, that he is too pure hearted, too generous, or as you would say, too thoughtless. I know that your ideas and mine differ a little on this point and I will not enlarge farther. It is true that neither Otis nor myself are rich enough to indulge in that amount of expenditure, which many of those with whom we associate are accustomed to do. Otis will never attempt this. If alone, he will have no pecuniary troubles after his graduation. How a man is influenced by a "family", I don't know, and I regard the experiment too dangerous for one of my weak mind and weaker purse to try. Otis will probably consult his heart alone, and try it. But no more of this till I see you.

We went after our Trees yesterday, and they have been set out today in the College Yard. We went about 12 miles and had a hard days work. The whole class engaged in it and there were no recitations. The Sophomore Classes always get trees one day in May.

I am in hopes that these warm sunny days are settling the Roads and fitting the ground for the spring's work. We saw one man planting corn in Bowdoinham.

The mail goes in a little while and I have no time to write farther. My wants as to money are, as near as I can estimate, as follows. I have the items on paper but will not set them down as it will take time. I shall need fifteen dollars to pay the bills necessary for me to pay this Term. I wish father to mail this on Monday if he can, for I am in hopes to get away Wednesday noon, so as to reach Leeds in the P.M. train. If I cannot, I will come Thursday morning.

Never mind sending to the depot. I will walk down, and then my Trunk can come anytime. If there is anything you wish me to do for you in Brunswick, just mention it in the letter. With much love I remain

Yours affectionately
Rowland

Mrs. John Gilmore

P.S. I intend that you shall receive this Saturday. If you do not till Monday, send a letter as early as possible and I will come home as soon as I can.
R

Bowdoin Coll June 14, 54.

Dear Mother

I left you so poorly that I am anxious to hear how you are. Is your health improving? Do you feel in better spirits than you did? Charles has reached home now, and I hope that he is better than when I left him in front of Mr. Beans. I have heard from Mr Cranford the result of the Exhibition – He must write me about it – whether it was generally satisfactory &c – I have received no letter from any of my friends except Frank, since I have been here. I feel as if somebody ought to write – From Otis I haven't heard a word – How does his Examination go? When will he come on? will he come directly here or to Leeds. Tutor Everett tells me that he has written him to come directly to his home – that will make his

stay in Brunswick more pleasant than if confined to my door room up three flights of stairs – I board this term on Pleasant St – nearly ½ mile from the College in a family of my own getting up – we have a good set of fellows and live very pleasantly –

I attended meeting & Sabbath School yesterday in Topsham – which, in spite of the long walk, I prefer to going here.

I am much obliged to Dellie for the catalogue – Tell him I am on the look out for him – Probably some one from here will take the school at Monmouth. if he is a good teacher, perhaps Dellie may go – I have but little time this morning and must make my letter short – Charles & Dellie must both write if you don't feel able –

When I came here I settled all of my bills – but there was a book bill of $3,00 & an Apparatus bill of 3,50 that I did not make calculations for – I had money enough to pay the first and $2,00 on the last once but with had a cent since – My German Teachers bill is three dollars and is now due – and the $1,50 to the Society must be paid or I cannot vote next Friday when my particular friend Tom Clark is candidate for President – So I must have some more money – the medicine and books that I have had this term will come to $3,00 more – This will make about $9,00 & Charles must also send the pay for his books – As fourth of July is coming I ought to have a dollar for that – So I think Father must send me ten dollars – besides Charles money this week –

My love to all the family – with much for yourself – I want to hear precisely how your health is – Have you consulted a Dr.?

Your aff Son

Rufus

107 6/19/1854 ***From:*** Rowland [RB Howard] ***To:*** Dear Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

RBH-072 Bowd. Coll.

Source: Bowdoin

Bowd. Coll. June 19, 54.

Dear Mother

I left you so poorly that I am anxious to hear how you are. Is your health improving? Do you feel in better Spirits than you did? Charles has reached home now, and I hope that he is better than when I left him in front of Mr. Barrows. I have heard from Mr. Crawford the result of the exhibition. He must write me about it, whether it was generally satisfactory etc. I have received no letter from any of my friends except Frank, since I have been here. I feel as if somebody ought to write. From Otis I haven't heard a word. How does his Examination go? When will he come on? Will he come directly here or to Leeds. Tutor Everett tells me that he has written him to come directly to his home - that will make his stay in Brunswick more pleasant than if confined to my poor room up three flights of stairs.

I board this Term on Pleasant St. nearly 1/2 mile from the College in a Club of my own getting up. We have a good set of fellows and live very pleasantly.

I attended meeting & Sabbath School yesterday in Topsham, which, in spite of the long walk, I preferred to going here.

I am much obliged to Dellie for the catalog. Tell him I am on the lookout for him. Probably someone from here will take the school at Monmouth. If he is a good teacher, perhaps Dellie may go. I have but little time this morning and must make my letter short. Charlie & Dellie must both write if you don't feel able.

When I came here I settled all of my bills, but there was a book bill of $3.00 & an Ath. Soc bill of 3.50 that I did not make calculations for. I had money enough to pay the first and $2.00 on the last. Have not had a cent since. My German Teacher's bill is three dollars and is now due, and the $1.50 to the Society must be paid or I cannot vote next Friday, when my particular friend Tom Clark is candidate for President. So I must have some more money. The medicine and books that I have had this term will come to $3.00 more. This will make about $9.00 & Charles must also send the pay for his books. As Fourth of July is coming I ought to have a dollar for that. So I think father must send me $10, besides Charles money, this week

My love to all the family, with much for yourself. I want to hear precisely how your health is. Have you consulted a Dr.?

Your aff. Son
Rowland

Leeds Sept. 12th 1847.

Dear Mother

I presume you are almost ready to scold me for not writing you before - but, we have been too busy travelling to allow me to write - I returned from Hallowell yesterday. Lizzie and I went to H. last Thursday or rather to Augusta - for we went down with in company with Willard Fletcher & Emma Tremont - Stay at Rechnes all night - I went to the Academy Friday morning - I expected to return to Leeds on Saturday but it required too much to admit of it. We found quite a number quite sick - Mania at Tom's almost distracting for Boston to buy her wedding dress - Charlie went to Farmington last Wednesday - Lizzie is slightly homesick - Father & I spent one day over his books & accounts. I could see nothing that would be of any pecuniary avail in law. I will give you a sketch of the ~~Hall~~ contract I have rec'd & the manner in which you can be sure obtain. for it is the proper strength. This certificate is used as an instrument to state the facts - Mother's direction in case of Father's death. I should not give instructions

any difficulty whatever before everything was
of pertaining home entirely and this is by no means
advisable. I have done what I could - but it
is not possible to do anything more. You will be
here much better than in most training to handle
and attend the sick - and now much further
acknowledgment in time of. I shall write you
before I leave if possible. I have received
no orders yet. I may be some weeks yet before
that time will come. Nothing yet heard from
Bond 50 & Carey. I have hopes
they will make good their loss - we shall probably
go to Fort Farrell some time next week or Fort
Ellsworth yet remains. Our orders perhaps may come
any from moment to moment. Another
is quite well - Lady too - I will write
Carrie - She has not seen anything of Mary
Stafford lately - I may. I could write more
better another time - I will go -
I shall be as you know
your affectionate brother
Otis

108 9/12/1854 ***From:*** Otis [OO Howard] ***To:*** Dear Brother [RB Howard]

RBH-073 Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

Leeds Sept. 12th 1854

Dear brother

I presume you are about ready to scold me for not writing you before, but we have been too busy to allow me to write. I returned from Hallowell yesterday. Lizzie and I went to H. last Thursday or rather to Augusta, for we went down in company with William Lothrop & Emma Turner. Stopt at <Joshua's> all night. I went to the Arsenal Friday morning. We intended to return to Leeds on Saturday but it rained too hard to admit of it. We found grandmother quite well. Maria not home - almost starting for Boston to buy her wedding dress. Charlie went to Yarmouth last Wednesday, says he is slightly homesick. Father & I spent one day over his books & records. I could do nothing that would be of any particular avail in law. I will give you a copy of the certificate. <I don't expect his [too faint]> It is the first draught. This certificate would be our instrument to substantiate mother's disposition in case of father's death. I <could> not fix matters any differently without <> father's house entirely and this is beyond <> <advisable>. I have done what I could - but it is not possible to do anything now. You will see how much mother has in <> remaining to herself, and where they are, and over which father's acknowledgment <> &c. I shall visit you before I leave if possible. [Many lines too faint to transcribe.]

Your affectionate brother
Otis

he would to remain with his class. If I was keeping house it would be different. It would be very pleasant for me to have him with me. I think now I will be allowed to remain here three years at least.

Mr Boggs & I both went to drill this morning - we had cartridges - I had some sport. He acted as instructor & I as Captain. I dont know as I will be able to study a profession - excepting my own this winter - can tell better by & by. Have you heard from Liggie lately? I trust she is well. I suppose you will go to Maria's wedding. I shall not be able to - I visited her new house in Philadelphia - It is pretty but not by any means equal to the one offered me for nothing. I have not written Charlie yet - but shall as soon as I finish this. Emma was never so happy as when she got to Phila. She was almost enraged - Mrs Brewster & her four daughters - cried & fell on her neck she was not behind them in this respect. They are quite poor - but most estimable people. The Merricks are very wealthy - have a summer residence out of the city - & live in the city in winter. I went to see Sarah in Brooklyn on my return - found her pretty well - and quite cheerful & the same with Frank. I have drawn two months pay - & will receive ten dollars more for mileage from West Point here - though not rich. I owe nothing & feel quite independent -

Your Affectionately
Chas. T. Howard

I have heard well of Waters Grant & Ray & your letter reached me since the mail. Mr Crosby - a bachelor age - you can forward your letters with Mr Waters will be in Brooklyn I think it will do - keep the letter regulates

Waterliet Arsenal
West Troy Oct 5th 1854.

Dear brother,

I received a catalogue from you yesterday, which is in fact the first message I have had from home since I left. I pursued my journey as I intended, only I did not reach this place until Saturday instead of friday as I proposed. I find everything here to suit me - a beautiful place indeed, fine quarters, and a most excellent commanding officer. I have a little more to do than I was led by Capt. Callender & others to anticipate, but withal the duties are light - to go on as Officer of the day & shops once in three days & at that time to drill the company one hour in the morning before breakfast. Maj Symington gave me some drawings also - which I have just completed. All are very kind to me and I am made to enjoy myself very much. There is now one young officer here & two more soon to come - Boggs is the one here & my companion. He has a beautiful sister there from Georgia. Besides this young lady there are three or four others - guests at

the house of Maj Symington. the Commanding Officer. two are quite pretty - & one Miss Dickert is the most splendid Singer I ever heard in the private walks of life I wish you could have heard the little thing warble last night at a party in Troy - where they prevailed on her to sing. Last night was my first party out - called a "sociable" affair, bonans things at best, where conversation is forced & smiles are meaningless. The Arsenal Grounds comprise about 100 acres of land - they are cut in twain by the Erie Canal after it bends southward on its way to Albany. There are several large Machine shops here in operation for the purpose of constructing all kinds of Artillery Carriages &c. there is one Company, which furnishes men for Guard & for the General police of the grounds. The Shops - Offices - Lieutenants quarters Hospital &c are on the Eastern side of the canal - and Maj Symington's house & Maj Ladeley's on the other side. There are several large gardens producing now an abundance of Grapes & peaches - the former are beautiful - West Troy itself is not much of a place - though the McAdamized roads that Girl Jane spoke of are no fiction. I have a silver watch for you - I shall send it by mail as soon as I can think to get a box to protect it. I trust you are in good health & spirits. My love to all when you write - write soon - Your affectionate brother

Chas

Oct 6th

I have come to the conclusion not to let you have so short a letter. Since I have completed my drawing and have now nothing particularly urgent on hand. I am anxious to hear from you. how is the health of you &c. There is a large double house on the Western side of the Canal, Maj Ladeley occupies one half of it at present, but will soon be relieved by Mr Benton a bachelor officer, who will join the mess & soon here. then the entire house will be vacant. Maj Symington says if I will get me a wife I can have that. The greater part of my fuel would be supplied me gratis. & house rent cost me nothing. It is a beautiful building - stone outside & finely finished inside - two large high rooms below besides the kitchen & other departments of domestic use & three rooms above. The rooms are all lighted by Gas - It would cost something to furnish it. but I would not take more rooms than was necessary & could live as frugally as I pleased. In the mess - we have each a private room & a common parlor & dining room - besides the kitchen &c. We have a family of three besides a ~~hired~~ hired girl, who takes the care of the whole house. They have their board for the trouble - I pronounce them to be the best servants I ever saw. They do every thing for you - Your board varies with the price of provisions. Charlie could come here, live in the mess - & study till he entered College - but I fear he would not be so well pitted as

109 10/5/1854 ***From:*** O.O. Howard ***To:*** Dear Brother [RB Howard]

RBH-074

Source: Bowdoin

Watervliet Arsenal
West Troy

Watervliet Arsenal
West Troy Oct. 5, 1854.

Dear brother,

I received a Catalogue from you yesterday, which is in fact the first message I have had from home since I left. I pursued my journey as I intended only I did not reach this place until Saturday instead of Friday as I proposed.

I find everything here to suit me - a beautiful place indeed, fine quarters, and a most excellent commanding officer. I have a little more to do then I was led by Capt. Calendar & others to anticipate, but withal the duties are light, to go on as officer of the day & shops once in three days & at that time to drill the company one hour in the morning before breakfast. Maj. Symington gave me some drawings also, which I have just completed. All are very kind to me and I am made to enjoy myself very much. There is now one young officer here & two more soon to come. Boggs is the one here & my companion. He has a beautiful sister here from Georgia. Besides this young lady there are three or four others, guests at the house of Maj. Symington, the commanding officer. Two are quite pretty, & one Miss Picket is the most splendid singer I ever heard in the private walks of life. I wish you could have heard the little thing warble last night at a party in Troy, where they prevailed on her to sing. Last night was my first party out called a "sociable" - dull, borous things at best, where conversation is forced & smiles are meaningless.

The Arsenal grounds comprise about 100 acres of land. They are cut in twain by the Erie Canal after it bends southward on its way to Albany. There are several large machine shops here in operation, for the purpose of constructing all kinds of Artillery carriages &c. There is one company, which furnishes men for Guard & for the general police of the grounds. The shops, officers, Lieutenant's quarters, hospital etc. are on the eastern side of the canal, and Maj. Symington's house & Maj. Ladely's on the other side. There are several large gardens producing now an abundance of grapes & peaches. The former are beautiful. West Troy itself is not much of a place, though the McAdamized roads that Jed Lane spoke of are no fiction.

I have a silver watch for you. I shall send it by mail as soon as I can think to get a box to protect it. I trust you are in good health & spirits. My love to all. When you write, write soon.

Your affectionate brother
Otis

Oct. 6
I have come to the conclusion not to let you have so short a letter, since I have completed my drawings and have now nothing particularly urgent on hand. I am anxious to hear from you, how is the health of you &c.

There is a large double house on the western side of the canal. Maj. Ladely occupies one half of it at present, but will soon be relieved by Mr. Benton a bachelor officer, who will join the mess & room here. Then the entire house will be vacant. Maj. Symington says if I will get me a wife I can have that. The greater part of my fuel would be supplied me gratis, & house rent cost me nothing. It is a beautiful building, stone outside & finely finished inside. Two large high rooms below besides the kitchen & other departments of domestic use & three rooms above. The rooms are all lighted by gas. It would cost something to furnish it, but I would not take more rooms than was necessary & could live as frugally as I pleased.

In the mess, we have each a private room & a common parlor & dining room, besides the kitchen etc. We have a family of three besides a hired girl who take care of the whole house. They have their board for the trouble. I pronounce them to be the best servants I ever saw. They do everything for you. Your board varies with the price of provisions. Charlie could come here & live in the mess & study till he entered college, but I fear he would not be so well fitted as if he would to remain with his class. If I was keeping house, it would be different. It would be very pleasant for me to have him with me. I think now I will be allowed to remain here three years at least.

Mr. Boggs & I both went to drill this morning. We had cartridges & had some sport. He acted as instructor & I as Captain. I don't know as I will be able to study a profession, excepting my own this winter - can tell better by & by.

Have you heard from Lizzie lately? I trust she is well. I suppose you will go to Maria's wedding. I shall not be able to. I visited her new house in Philadelphia. It is fine but not by any means equal to the one offered me for nothing. I have not written Charlie yet, but shall as soon as I finish this. Laura was never so happy as when she got to Phila. She was almost crazed. Mrs. Brewster & her four daughters cried & fell on her such, she was not behind them in this respect. They are quite poor, but most estimable people. The Merricks are very wealthy - have a summer residence out of the city & live in the city in winter. I went to see Sarah in Brooklyn on my return, found her pretty well, and quite cheerful & the same with Frank.

I have drawn two months pay & will receive ten dollars more for mileage from West Point here. Though not rich, I owe nothing & feel quite independent.

Yours affectionately
O. O. Howard

I have boxed up the watch, guard & key & got them ready to send by mail. I broke the crystal a few days ago. You can probably find one that will fit the watch at Brunswick. I think it will go safe. Get the watch regulated.

Waterville
Nov. 4th 1854

Dear Brother.

I received your last letter to day, and glad was I to get it. I ought to have written you before, but as my last you are pleased to call an expense, I must make sure that that this shall not be.

The Frenchman De Courcillon has gone to N. York with his book started this afternoon. I have yet about thirty pages to write before it is entirely completed. These I am to send him sometime tomorrow. It was too much of a task for me to undertake just now; but I am glad it is so near done, and trust he will do well with his book. Thought I have my doubts. The title is "The Unfinished Curate or the Religious Customs of France." It is written in a very simple, narrative style in the original and I have endeavored to preserve the identity in this respect in the

When I will try to give the Epitome of my reasons for I against getting married. Give my love to all. I thought you were going to teach in Topsham. Now you say you are going to teach in Uncle Enoch's district if I read right. On mother's account I am very glad but how much money can you possibly get there.

Eighteen dollars per month perhaps. I believe your brother who preceded you there as pedagogue received the full amount of seventeen dollars.

How is Charlie's health. Tell me the result of your visit to Lewiston. Your affectionate brother

C. F. Howard

translation. No, this has not been of much benefit to me - nor have I yet learned to speak french. He could speak English so much better than I could french that he it became more agreeable for us both to converse in English. But I mean to make him teach me to speak french - before long. You ask if I have drawn any pay. Why I had to ~~draw~~ draw my pay at N. York on my return from Philadelphia to pay my debts. I have since had to buy a new over coat & $3.00 a citizens coat - vest - pants - rubber boots - all the furniture of my room - my part of the mess - furniture &c. &c. I have drawn my pay regularly at the close of every month. I am out of debt - or have the money to meet all I owe, but thus far I have not laid up anything. I know it would be better for me to be married on many accounts - but I have been bothered so much - been maddened - rendered jealous - nervous and what not so long (& then I am ready as lady else is -) that - I fancy that I would make but a poor specimen of a husband - I am particularly calculated to render a lady unhappy. I do not say this in a blue mood but as the result of cool consideration & some little unpleasant - experience.

But my word is given and when Lizzie is ready I am - though I expressed my conviction to her that - we had better separate. It will cost me at least $500.00 to fit up my house or quarters - and where shall I get the money? Shall I borrow and have a debt dragging upon me? Or shall I allow Lizzie to do so and outrage my peculiar pride and notions of honor! There are many things in my present life and associations that do not suit me, and marriage will obviate all these inconveniences while it gives me to others. There are many things in the hospitality that one officer has to extend to others, that I should have objections to.

But I will not speak of these things now. I shall be home I expect in January.

112 12/9/1854 ***From:*** O.O. Howard ***To:*** Dear Brother [RB Howard]

RBH-075 Watervliet

Source: Bowdoin

Watervliet Nov. 9th, 1854 [This was written after the one he wrote on Nov 23 and probably the one Rowland wrote on Nov 19. I assume it should have been dated Dec 9th 1854.]

Dear brother

I received your last letter to day, and glad was I to get it. I ought to have written you before, but as my last you are pleased to call an excuse, I must make sure that this shall not be.

The Frenchman De Courcillon has gone to N. York with his book started this afternoon. I have yet about thirty pages to write before it is entirely completed. Those I am to send him sometime tomorrow. It was too much of a task for me to undertake just now; but I am glad it is so near done, and trust he will do well with his book, though I have my doubts. The title is The Unfinished Curate or The Religious Customs of France. It is written in a very simple, narrative style in the original and I have endeavored to preserve the identity in this respect in the translation. No, this has not been of much benefit to me, nor have I yet learned to speak French. He could speak English so much better than I could French that it became more agreeable for us both to converse in English. But I mean to make him teach me to speak French before long.

You asked if I have drawn any pay. Why I had to draw my pay at N. York on my return from Philadelphia to pay my debts. I have since had to buy a Unf. overcoat $43.00, a citizen coat, vest, pants, winter boots, all the furniture of my room, my part of the mess furniture &c. &c. I have drawn my pay regularly at the close of every month. I am out of Debt, or have the money to meet all I owe, but thus far I have not laid up anything. I know it would be better for me to be married on many accounts, but I have been bothered so much been maddened, rendered jealous, morose and whatnot so long (& when I am ready nobody else is) that I fancy that I would make but a poor specimen of a husband. I am particularly calculated to render a lady unhappy. I do not say this in a blue mood but as the result of soul consideration & some little unpleasant experience.

But my word is given and when Lizzie is ready I am, though I expressed my conviction to her that we had better separate. It will cost me at least $500.00 to fit up my house or Quarters, and where shall I get the money? Shall I borrow and have a debt dragging upon me? Or shall I allow Lizzie to do it and curb my peculiar pride and notions of honor? There are many things in my present life and associations that do not suit me, and marriage will obviate all these inconveniences while it gives rise to others. There are many things in the hospitality that one officer has to extend to others, that I should have objections to.

But I will not speak of these things now. I shall be home I expect in January. Then I will try to give the Epitome of my reasons for & against getting married.

Give my love to all. I thought you were going to teach in Topsham, now you say you are going to teach in Uncle Ensign's district if I read right. On mother's account I am very glad but how much money can you possibly get there. Eighteen dollars per month perhaps. I believe your brother who preceded you there as pedagogue, received the full amount of seventeen dollars. How is Charlie's health? Tell me the result of your visit to Lewiston.

Your affectionate brother
OO Howard

Bowdoin Coll. Nov. 19. 1854

My Dear Mother

Charles just wrote in a Catalogue that he sent me that you had been sick and were getting better. I am anxious to know the particulars as to how sick you have been, and how far you have recovered. Strange that Sallie did not write!

I wrote three pages to you last Sabbath but did not send it, thinking perhaps I might hear from you next day.

I have not heard from Alis for a long time. I hear from Charles very frequently. He is doing finely in his studies and seems to enjoy good health & spirits. They will have an Exhibition at

Yarmouth on Tuesday and I shall attend and hear Charles perform if I possibly can –

I think now that I can do it without losing any Recitation – Our Term closes one week from next Tuesday – I have got no School yet, but shall take one if I can get a good offer – If I do not obtain a School in some other direction I shall be home, and I rather think I shall be home at Thanksgiving, anyway. –

Lizzie wrote me a good long letter a few days ago – We are getting on very intimate terms, and I am liking her better as I get nearer to her – It would be just so with you. She feels fearful of doing or saying something that you may not approve – and that fear has kept her more aloof. Then her naturally honest & affectionate disposition prompts –

Now, Mother, if you don't feel able to write, do get Dellie to do so, and tell me about your health – I cannot write more today – but you must always remember me as

Your very affectionate Son

Rufus

Mrs. Eliza Gilman

110 11/19/1854 ***From:*** Rowland [Howard] ***To:*** Mrs. Eliza Gilmore

RBH-076 Bowdoin College

Source: Bowdoin

Bowd. Coll. Nov. 19, 1854

My Dear Mother

Charles just wrote in a catalogue that he sent me that you had been sick and were getting better. I am anxious to know the particulars as to how sick you have been, and how far you have recovered. Strange that Dellie did not write!

I wrote three pages to you last Sabbath but did not send it thinking perhaps I might hear from you next day. I have not heard from Otis for a long time. I hear from Charles very frequently. He is doing finely in his Studies and seems to enjoy good health & Spirits. They will have an Exhibition at Yarmouth on Tuesday and I shall attend and hear Charles perform if I possibly can. I think now that I can do it without losing any Recitation. Our Term closes one week from next Tuesday. I have got no School yet, but shall take one if I can get a good offer. If I do not obtain a School in Some other direction I shall be home, and I rather think I shall be home at Thanksgiving anyway.

Lizzie wrote me a good long letter a few days ago. We are getting on very intimate terms, and I am liking her better as I get nearer to her. It would be just so with you. She feels fearful of doing or saying something that we may not approve, and that fear has kept her more aloof than her warm heart & affectionate disposition prompts.

Now, Mother, if you don't feel able to write, do get Dellie to do so, and tell me about your health. I can not well write more today, but you must always remember me as

Your very affectionate Son
Rowland

Mrs. Eliza Gilmore

Waterville. November 23rd 1864

My dear brother.

My health is very good and has continued so all the time I have been here. I am assisting a young French exile in getting out a book in English, one he has written in French. He understands our language but not perfectly as you might suppose. Knowing that he had been in the country less than 6 months and could not speak a word of English when he came. He was an officer in the French Army, about my age — poor & friendless as an exile — I thought he needed someone to help him & I have done so. Well I undertake to write a chapter a day besides my other duties. This gives me so much labor with my pen that I am too tired to write letters, when I get through. This has been the cause of my silence. I will write more soon. I am affectionately

your brother

Otis.

Otis

11

111 11/23/1854 ***From:*** Otis [OO Howard] ***To:*** Dear Brother [RB Howard]

RBH-077 Watervliet

Source: Bowdoin

Watervliet November 23d, 1854

My dear brother,

My health is very good and has continued so all the time I have been here.

I am assisting a young French exile in getting out a book in English, one he has written in French. He understands our language but not perfectly as you might suppose knowing that he had been in the country less than six months and could not speak a word of English when he came. He was an officer in the French army about my age - poor & friendless as an exile. I thought he needed someone to help him & I have done so. Well I undertake to write a chapter a day besides my other duties. This gives me so much labor with my pen that I am too tired to write letters, when I get through.

This has been the cause of my silence. I will write more soon. I am affectionately
your brother
Otis