

Waterloo Arsenal N.Y.

June 19th 1855.

Dear Brother,

I received your letter a few days since and ought to have replied before but I will have to beg off on the score of being a married man. I was going to explain how but never mind. I hope you are well. I will over the Election. Thru exciting election and the greatest of misadventures I know by a two fold experience. What did you let the day prescribed by the constitution pass over for? As a stroke of policy so as to get more friends. Ah! you young politicians. I hope you are not imitating the political stars of our country. As I had heard the news from home Koland's marriage and Argis death. Poor fellow. He is out of pain. I am glad to hear of his frame of mind in his last moments for the sake of the consolation it affords his friends and trust that the eleventh hour was sufficient for his repentance and acceptance. What do you think Koland is going to do with his wife. A snug place to keep her at her father's. I believe I would bring her home. I got married when mother was gone I did not write me - just think of it. Well I'll have my revenge. Lizzie came back last Friday and I laid aside the grass widow's habit. Perhaps you know what that is. I shall let you

for I have quit telling things which are not
creditable to myself. She had quite an eventful journey
for her friend Miss Rogers in Boston, was escorted to
Springfield by Col Craig the head of our Department, and
from Springfield to Albany by Messrs Seymour
and T. Hagner. In this grand company I found her
at East Albany. I think she is bent on writing you
a letter if she is another man's wife, but she is very,
very busy to day. Lizzie sends her love, and regrets very
much she did not see you while in Maine. I feel another
was better before she left. She inquired for Charlie at
the Dept of Charles Haines, but did not get a glimpse
of him. We have a board of Ordnance to assemble here
to day. Col Craig will be along to make his
annual inspection this week. Our grounds are
looking finely now, notwithstanding the cold our gardens bid
fair to give us good crops. The strawberries are ripe
and green peas & green beans &c. furnish us with
something good even this early. I am sorry you cannot
come & see how happily we live & how welcome we could
make you. Little Alice Hazard staid with me over two
weeks while Lizzie was away. He was very homesick
after he got to his home proper. Nothing would give me
more pleasure than to have you come and Lizzie
would be as happy to see her brother as can be.
I cannot write you more this morning but will
give you my word you shall very soon have a
longer letter. Our kindest regards to Alice & Helen, and
don't forget Mrs Sands. Our love to yourself Henry. Your brother Alvin

I had finished my letter, but speaking of Maj Thornton's
family who are here, on the East. I began to
think of an argument against making excuses & explanations.
Maj Thornton the Maj's sister is an old maid of the
time stamp, very simple, a little opinionated, rather
thin & tall, straight as a pipe-stem both in physical structure
and in moral deportment. While I was enjoying the
chapters of my widowhood I passed an evening at
Maj Seymour's. Mrs Thornton, Miss Thornton - Mrs L.
& Miss Rogers were present. Miss T. took me all to herself.
I had a straight-backed chair that rivalled Miss T. herself.
in uprightness. sat near the sofa where Miss T. sat on
the sofa bolt upright (even tautology) facing me &
pouring into my ear some of the most simple & true remarks
imaginable in a very affecting manner. My mind was off
when my heart was, in the mean time. (don't tell Lizzie) I
looked pleased, said yes, indeed, I'd often thought so. Why
sooner that was surprising - &c. put in a few speculations
out of place as an absent man will. My back began
to ache, and I moved away to a comfortable chair
at the other side of the room. Rogers noticed it and
willing to give me a chance to keep my evidence from
running wild, made some pertinent remark. I replied
that I changed my seat for relief, meaning my back -
Miss T. didn't take. Though she did or at least Rogers
did, and we had a hearty laugh after we got home
over one of my usual Irish blunders. I have I any
Irish blood in my veins? —

122 6/19/1855 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dear Brother [RB Howard]

RBH-087

Watervliet Arsenal N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

Watervliet Arsenal N.Y.
June 19th 1855.

Dear Brother,

I received your letter a few days since and ought to have replied before but I will have to beg off on the score of being a married man. I was going to explain how, but never mind. Hope you are well, & well over the Election. These exciting elections are the greatest of nuisances I know by twofold experience. What did you let the day prescribed by the Constitution pass over for? As a stroke of policy so as to get more friends. Ah! You young politicians. I hope you are not imitating the political stars of our country.

Yes I had heard the news from home, Roland's marriage and Arza's death. Poor fellow. He is out of pain. I am glad to hear of his frame of mind in his last moments for the sake of the consolation it affords his friends, and trust that the 11th hour was sufficient for true repentance and acceptance.

What do you think Roland is going to do with his wife, a funny place to keep her at her father's. I believe I would bring her home. He got married when mother was gone & didn't invite me - just think of it. Well I'll have my revenge.

Lizzie came back last Friday and I laid aside the grass-widowers habit. Perhaps you know what that is. I shan't tell you for I have quit telling things which are not creditable to myself. She had quite an eventful journey for her, found Lieut. Boggs in Boston, was escorted to Springfield by Col. Craig the head of our department and from Springfield to Albany by Majors Symington and Hagner. In this grand company I found her at East Albany. I think she is bent on writing you a letter if she is another man's wife, but she is very, very busy to day. Lizzie sends her love and regrets very much she did not see you while in Maine. Her mother was better before she left. She inquired for Charlie at the depot of Charlie Haines, but did not get a glimpse of him.

We have a band of ordinance to assemble here to day. Col. Craig will be along to make his annual inspection this week. Our grounds are looking finely now. Notwithstanding the cold, our gardens bid fair to give us good crops. The strawberries are ripe and green peas & gooseberry sauce &c. &c. furnish us with something good even this early.

I am sorry you cannot come & see how happily we live & how welcome we could make you. Little Ollie Hazzard stayed with me over two weeks while Lizzie was away. He was very homesick after he got to his home proper. Nothing would give me more pleasure than to have you come and Lizzie would be as happy to see her brother as can be.

I cannot write you more this morning but will give you my word you shall very soon have a longer letter. Our kindest regards to Alice & Hellen and don't forget Mrs. Sands. Our love to yourself <Honey>.

Your brother
Otis

I had finished my letter, but speaking of Maj. Thornton's family who are here, on the post, I happened to think of an argument against making excuses & explanations. Miss Thornton the Maj's sister is an old maid of the true stamp, very simple, a little opinionated, rather thin & tall, straight as a pipe-stem both in physical structure and in moral deportment. While I was enjoying the chagrins of my widowhood I passed one evening at Maj. Symington's. Mrs. Thorton, Miss Thornton, Mrs. S & Boggs were present. Miss T took me all to herself. I had a straight back chair that rivaled Miss T herself in uprightness, sat near the sofa where Miss T sat on the sofa bolt upright (excuse tautology) facing me & pouring into my ear some of the most simple & trite remarks imaginable in a very affecting manner. My mind was off where my heart was in the meantime (don't tell Lizzie). I looked pleased, said yes, indeed, I'd often thought so, why surely that was surprising, &c. Put in a few ejaculations out of place as an absent man will. My back began to ache and I moved away to a comfortable chair at the other

side of the room. Boggs noticed it and willing to give me a chance to keep my conduct from seeming rude, made some pertinent remark. I replied that I changed my seat for relief, meaning my back. Miss T didn't take though the rest did or at least Boggs did and we had a hearty laugh after we got home over one of my usual Irish blunders. Have I any Irish blood in my veins?

I will try to make it pleasant
for him - Our declamation is a week
from tomorrow (Monday) night & I shall
not leave for home until Friday after
Charles' Examination -

Tell Father that I shall
want \$15.00 to finish my expenses
this term & get me home

Hoping to soon see you
well & happy I remain ever
Your affectionate son
Roland

Mrs. E. Gilmore

P.S. I shall want the money as soon
as this is received. Our table
supper being now due & our
declamation expenses

Bond. Coll. July 21-55

My dear Mother

I was pained to hear
by Sellies letter that you were
ill - I hope that it was but a passing
difficulty & that you are by this
time fully recovered - I received
a letter from Charles today - He
is very well & thinks he shall
be here on Tuesday of next week
& remain till after his Examination
which is on the following Friday -

That awfully hot weather
has made a great many sick
and I hope you have recovered
while breathing the pure invigorating
air which yesterday & today have
afforded - It seems today as if
I could do something & I have
accomplished considerable - I have
written a theme of seven pages

this afternoon but I had to write
it hurriedly & I fear that the Prof-
will get as impatient while reading
it as Sallie did over my last letter.

I think it is quite a compliment
to me that three of my Classmates
have borrowed a large number of
my Theses to copy this afternoon.

They prefer taking mine to writing
them themselves. If they could read
them I should have no objections, but
I don't like to read them over so
many times. I have got sick of
them. Now if these friends could only
return the favor in Calculus, I should
be much obliged to them. For I am
as deficient there as they are in
theses. We are made for many
purposes, but I was not made
to enjoy the highest branch of
Mathematics as Otis says he did.

I dread examination as much

as I would a horsewhipping with
my hands tied behind me. A new
feeling with me! I have always felt
very confident of success. Therefore
but as to that Calculus I am
confident of one thing and that is
that I know nothing about it. I
must take a leap in the dark.

I am very glad to hear that
you have settled a minister & now
I hope the people will support
him decently. Not for forms sake
nor pride's sake. but because they
ought to do so. If I had my way
I would revive the old parish tax.
It is too bad for farmers to get
rich while ministers starve.

Tell Sallie I am ever so
much obliged for his good long
letter & I hope to pay him, in kind
next term. If you will consent
for him to come to commencement

123 7/21/1855 *From:* Rowland [Howard]

To: Mrs. E. Gilmore

RBH-088

Bowd. Coll.

Source: Bowdoin

Bowd. Coll. July 21, 55

My dear Mother,

I was pained to hear by Dellie's letter that you were ill. I hope that it was but a passing difficulty & that you are by this time fully recovered. I received a letter from Charles today. He is very well & thinks he shall be here on Tuesday of next week & remain till after his Examination which is on the following Friday.

That awfully hot weather has made a great many sick and I hope you have recovered while breathing the pure & invigorating air which yesterday & today have afforded. It seems today as if I could do something & I have accomplished considerable. I have written a theme of seven pages this afternoon, but I had to write it hurriedly & I fear that the Prof will get as impatient while reading it as Dellie did over my last letter.

I think it is quite a compliment to me that three of my classmates have borrowed a large number of my themes to copy this afternoon. They preferred taking mine to writing them themselves. If they could read them I should have no objections, but I don't like to read them over so many times. I have got sick of them. Now if these friends could only return the favor in Calculus, I should be much obliged to them. For I am as deficient there as they are in themes. We are made for many purposes, but I was not made to enjoy the highest branch of Mathematics as Otis says he did.

I dread examination as much as I would a horse whipping with my hands tied behind me. A new feeling with me! I have always felt very confident of success heretofore but as to that calculus I am confident of one thing and that is that I know nothing about it. I must take a leap in the Dark.

I am very glad to hear that you have settled a minister & now I hope the people will support him decently, not for form's sake nor pride's sake, but because they ought to do so. If I had my say I would revive the old parish here. It is too bad for farmers to get rich while ministers starve.

Tell Dellie I am ever so much obliged for his good long letter & I hope to pay him, in kind next term. If you will consent for him to come to commencement I will try to make it pleasant for him. Our Declamation is a week from tomorrow (Monday) night & I shall not leave for home until Friday after Charles' examination.

Tell father that I shall want \$15.00 to finish my expenses this term & get me home.

Hoping to soon see you well & happy. I remain ever

Your affectionate son
Rowland

Mrs. E. Gilmore

P.S. I shall want the money as soon as this is received. Our class supper being now due & our Declamation Expenses.

Goldsmiths. Vicar of Wakefield &c - Johnsons Roselars.
The heir of Redcliff - Kenneth - Beatrice - Charles
O'Malley &c. We did attempt a little history - but
got lost in the Decline and Fall - completely
prostrated - but when cold weather comes on
we will have grown older & wiser - and will
try if McCaulay will not revive us. Lizzy
and I read the New York papers daily - read the
Arrivals, the Army news and the war news, we
spent much time pleasantly and profitably together.
Mind you, our particular strife is to quarrel
less than any other two beings in such relative
positions. I don't hear from home now much.
They all seem to consider me hopelessly lost
since my marriage. Why I am as much the
same as of old as two tubs are alike. I want to
know everything - can enter into the details of home
affairs as much as if I had in a bright-eyed
little load-stone here - for you know I am the
bigger magnet myself. Lizzy says it is all
"knowing." This is a common word here. Now she
can apply it to a load-stone or a magnet is more than
my cleverness can explain - She sends her love - says
she has to work so hard she has not time to
write -
Your affectionate brother
Chas

Waterbury Arsenal N. Y.
July 22nd 1855.

Dear Brother,

I received your kind letter in
good time and was glad to hear of a success
that gratified you so much. Allow me to
congratulate you for your good fortune, which
you seem to regard as a harbinger of that
which is to come. Undoubtedly you may judge
in some degree of what you will accomplish
by your success in the miniature politics of
College - for these peculiar talents are brought
in requisition - Stump - Speaking - manoeuvring - intriguing
influencing others, by the smoothing of your tongue,
or by the fertility of your researches. You learn
to keep cool while others are excited - take much
exercise - short walks and long ones - you talk much -
read books bearing on points at issue, and
make poor recitations. My opinion is, my brother,

candidly expressed that those evening elections are
the greatest sort of nuisances - and that the little
good that may be derived, the little knowledge
that may be gained by them, is more than twice
counterbalanced by the effect they have upon
the college, the society itself - and the individuals
severally that compose it. Politics is the last
thing that a man of high principle and a worthy
ambition goes into. Don't be too fast if you
want permanent success. We will rejoice at Charles's
success as a scholar, but Rowland you must
make the remaining time you are at College
tell. I don't care much to hear from the
President or others that you have done well -
I want you to tell me, Otis. I feel that I have laid
the foundation of becoming a good lawyer - I have
got just what I need discipline of mind. Don't
think my dear brother I wish to throw cold water
and speak discouragingly to you - I will join
heartily in congratulation, and ever send the
chores of your just praise - but I know you
will feel so much better satisfied a few years
hence, when you can see and feel the influence
of your college discipline, that I can't help
urging you to think less of those things that will

bring immediate praise, and make you a smart
man at College and think more of the substan-
tial. You know, Rowland, there is not the least danger
of your becoming a book-worm - and I would like
like you to be in any degree superficial - You must
know upon me and say "Physician, heal thyself?"
So, I will - I'll try. Charles is going to Brunswick.
Now I wish I could be with you. I don't
wish to recite any more - or pass any more
examinations, but I would like to review
the studies that you will have once more - and
perhaps injure Charles by reading Livy with
him. I was requested by Mrs Maj Thornton to
hear her son in Latin an hour each day - Her
husband is now crossing the plains on his way
to New Mexico, and she cannot well spare
her boy from home. He is about fourteen
now and his mother thinks him much behind
hand. I could not muster courage to refuse
her request; and I think it will be beneficial
to me to review my Latin - now that I have
considerable time on my hands. Lizzy sits
near the table - has been writing her mother -
We read to each other much. We have rather confined
our readings to light works - as Thackeray's works -

124 7/22/1855 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dear Brother [RB Howard]

RBH-089

Watervliet Arsenal N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

Watervliet Arsenal N.Y.
July 22nd 1855

Dear Brother,

I received your kind letter in good time and was glad to hear of a success, that gratified you so much. Allow me to congratulate you for your good fortune which you seem to regard as a harbinger of that which is to come. Undoubtedly you may judge in some degree of what you will accomplish by your success in the miniature politics of College, for there peculiar talents are brought in requisition, stump-speaking, maneuvering, intriguing influencing others by the smoothness of your tongue, or by the fertility of your researches. You learn to keep cool while others are excited, take much exercise, short walks and long ones – you talk much, read books bearing on points at issue, and make your recitations.

My opinion is, my brother, candidly expressed, that these exciting elections are the greatest sort of nuisances, and that the little good that may be derived, the little knowledge that may be gained by them, is more than twice counterbalanced by the effect they have upon the college, the society itself, and the individuals severally that compose it. Politics is the last thing that a man of high principle and a worthy ambition goes into. Don't be too fast if you want permanent success. We will rejoice at Charlie's success as a scholar, but Rowland you must make the remaining time you are at College tell. I don't care much to hear from the President or others that you have done well. I want you to tell me: Otis, I feel that I have laid the foundation of becoming a good lawyer. I have got just what I need discipline of mind.

Don't think my dear brother I wish to throw cold water and speak discouragingly to you. I will join heartily in congratulation and ever swell the chorus of your just praise, but I know you will feel so much better satisfied a few years hence, when you can see and feel the influence of your College discipline, that I can't help urging you to think less of these things that will bring immediate praise, and make you a smart man at College and think more of the substantial. You know, Rowland, there is not the least danger of your becoming a book-worm, and I wouldn't like you to be in any degree superficial. You must turn upon me and say: "Physician, heal thyself!" So I will. I'll try.

Charlie is going to Brunswick. How I wish I could be with you. I don't wish to recite any more, or pass anymore examinations, but I would like to review the studies that you will have once more and perhaps <injure> Charlie by reading Livi with him. I was requested by Mrs Maj Thornton to hear her son in Latin an hour each day. Her husband is now crossing the Plains on his way to New Mexico, and she cannot well spare her boy from home. He is about fourteen now and his mother thinks him much behind hand. I could not muster courage to refuse her request; and I think it will be beneficial to me to review my Latin, now that I have considerable time on my hands.

Lizzie sits near the table, has been writing her mother. We read to each other much. We have rather confined our reading to light works - as Thackery's works - Goldsmith's Vicar of Wakefield, &c. - Johnson's Roselas, The Heir of Radcliff - Kenneth Beatrice, Charles O'Malley &c. We did attempt a little history, but got lost in the Decline and Fall, completely prostrated, but when cold weather comes on, we will have grown older & wiser, and will try if McCauley will not revive us. Lizzie and I read the New York papers daily, read the Arrivals, the Army news and the war news. We spend much time pleasantly and profitably together. Mind you, our particular strife is to quarrel less than any other two beings in such relative positions.

I don't hear from home now much. They all seem to consider me hopelessly lost since my marriage. Why I am as much the same as of old as two tubs are alike. I want to know everything – can enter into the details of home affairs as much as if I hadn't a bright-eyed little load-stone here, for you know I am the bigger magnet myself. Lizzie says it is all "humbug". This is a common word here, how she can apply it to a load stone or a magnet is more than my cleverness can explain. She sends her love, says she has to work so hard she has not time to write.

Your affectionate brother
Otis

things collected on the steps of I Harper's building -
Some with ^{arms} protruding through branches - some with
Elbows out - some with one leg covered & some with
another - some with battered caps too big & some
with them too small - ^{the} I suppose keep one man
at the head of the stairs to keep them out. Just
suppose Delle standing in the door of the
bar with some corn, which he is dealing out
to the pens. by small handfuls, you know what a
mess they would occasion & how different it would
be to keep them at a distance. These boys wanted
the August nos of I Harper - and they flew at the man
keeping them at bay - one would get past. then another -
while he was putting one back two would get around
him - They were boxing each other throwing their hats
and riding down on the benches - and were on the
whole the rowdiest, dirtiest, noisiest set of little
monkeys I ever saw. Soon after I could hear from
every direction - "Harper's for August 20 cents!"

Give my love to all - This letter has been written
before breakfast. I took a walk just after 5 - returned
to the office & here I am. I suspect Lizzie is not
up. She don't know I am writing. Yesterday morning I
smoked two pipes & wrote in the flower garden
before breakfast.

Waterbury Arsenal
Aug. 8. 1855

Dear brother

Allow me to congratulate you
on your success in obtaining the prize - I
suspect you are considerably vexed at the equal
distribution of the dollars between yourself &
your honorable cotemporary on the stage - It
appears also that your whole class did
equally well, but you & Mr Watson were
elected by a majority vote to fill the
right place of prize recipients. Tell us
if the Brunswick paper is to be relied on.

Leth B. has now gone out from his Alma
Mater. I hope he will have the wit to behave
himself a little more creditably hereafter. He don't
seem to have had a pass at Commencement.

What for? These young men are to pay \$8 or so
for Dedworth's band. Are there not many in the
Class who are poor & in debt? The Portland or Augusta
band would give music good enough for anybody
to listen to, and but for the Dedworth on the bills

more than half the people would be at a loss
to distinguish it from another. I forget though,
You are a Musician and I am not. I have not
learned about Charlie's entry yet. I am still under
the impression that "the Greek Grammar" is to be
"made up". Tell him to correct me. I am anxious to
hear from Mother. I don't does she look this
summer and how is she? I want her to write me
about the places that our father visited in this vicinity.
Saratoga is but an hour & half's ride by the cars.
I know he was there, but the name of the other town
I have forgotten. I would like to know if he
mentioned any acquaintances or friends in his
letters from this part of New York. Uncle Ward
sent me a paper from Kansas, where his natural
and required greatness seem to magnify. It
is Col R. B. Howard the original projector of the
Prison River R.R. and apparently a man
of the highest standing, & a great political acquisition
to the growing country of Kansas. This paper
containing his previous notable points & a slight puff
was the first intimation I had that he had migrated.
Tell us any more particulars if you know any.
I have forgotten to speak of the book that I assisted

Monsieur Eugene Dr Courcillon to prepare for publi-
cation. It has been before the public about three months.
It is entitled, *Le Curé mangé*, or the Unfinished
Curate. The book is a very readable one and to
give it a recommendation to you. It is dedicated to
"Lieut O. V. Howard, my friend in adversity."

I tell you Newman it is right hard to be a charitable
man and not get humbugged. Courcillon has left for
Europe. If you were here I could inform you of a
few experiences after the style of Oliver Goldsmith, but
it is not wise to make an exposé in black & white.

I visited Harpers the other day when in N. York.
They have a very extensive building at Franklin Square.
It is built of iron throughout - fire-proof & splendid -
What particularly struck me, was the host of young
& beautiful Americans on the broad stairway that
leads to the principal room of the Establishment.

You have been in New York - and have met at Car-
stations & Steam-boat landings, boys of every description -
crying in every sort of style & on every key of the
Government. "Last Harper for June - 20 cts!" "New York
with impudence
I prefer only 2 cts! &c. &c." You have had them, ^{with impudence} put
their papers in your face at every corner, or with
humbling humility, beg you to purchase. Just imagine all these

125 8/8/1855

From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dear Brother [RB Howard]

RBH-090

Watervliet Arsenal

Source: Bowdoin

Watervliet Arsenal
Aug 8, 1855

Dear brother,

Allow me to congratulate you on your success in obtaining the prize. I suspect you are considerably vexed at the equal distribution of the dollars between yourself & your honorable contemporary on the stage. It appears also that your whole class did equally well, but you & Mr Watson were elected by a majority vote to fill the high place of prize recipients. Tell us if the Brunswick paper is to be relied on.

Seth B. has now gone out from his Alma Mater. I hope he will have the wit to behave himself a little more creditably hereafter. He didn't seem to have had a part at Commencement.

What fools these young men are to pay \$800.00 for Dodworth's band. Are there not many in the Class who are poor & in debt? The Portland or Augusta band would give music good enough for anybody to listen to, and but for the Dodworth on the bills more than half the people would be at a loss to distinguish it, from another. I forget though, you are a musician and I am not. I have'nt learned about Charlie's entry yet. I am still under the impression that "the Greek Grammar" is to be "made up". Tell him to correct me. I am anxious to hear from mother. How does she look this summer and how is she? I want her to write me about the places that our father visited in this vicinity. Saratoga is but an hour & half's ride by the cars. I know he was there, but the name of the other town I have forgotten. I would like to know if he mentioned any acquaintances or friends in his letters from this part of New York.

Uncle Ward sent me a paper from Kansas, where his natural and acquired Greatness seem to magnify. He is Col., W. B. Howard, the original proprietor of the Hudson River R.R. And apparently a man of the highest standing & a great political acquisition to the growing country of Kansas. This paper containing his previous notable points & a slight puff was the first intimation I had that he had migrated,. Tell us any more particulars if you know any.

I have forgotten to speak of the book that I assisted Monsieur Eugene De Courcillon to prepare for publication. It has been before the public about three months. It is Entitled, Le Cure Manque, or the unfinished Curate. The book is a very readable one and to give it a recommendation to you. It is dedicated to "Lieut O. O. Howard, my friend in adversity." I tell you Rowland it is right hard to be a charitable man and not get humbugged. Courcillon has left for Europe. If you were here I could inform you of a few experiences after the style of Oliver Goldsmith, but it is not wise to make an expose in black & white.

I visited Harper's the other day when in N. York. They have a very extensive building at Franklin Square. It is built of iron throughout, fire-proof & splendid. What particularly struck me, was the host of young & hopeful Americans on the broad stairway that leads to the principal room of the Establishment. You have been in New York, and have met at Car-stations & steam-boat landings, boys of every description, crying in every sort of style & on every key of the <Garment> - "Last Harper for June, 20 cts! "New York Herald only 2 cents! &c &c". You have had them with impudence put their papers in your face at every corner, or with humbug humility, beg you to purchase. Just imagine all these beings collected on the steps of Harpers building - some with knees protruding through breeches - some with elbows out - some with one leg covered & some with another - some with tattered caps too big & some with them too small. The Harpers keep one man at the head of the stairs to keep them out. Just imagine Dellie standing in the door of the barn with some corn, which he is dealing out to the hens, by small handfuls. You know what a muss they would occasion & how difficult it would be to keep them at a distance. These boys wanted the August nos of Harper - and they flew at the man keeping them at bay - one would get past, then another, while he was putting one back two would get around him. They were boxing each other, throwing their hats and riding down on the banisters, and were on the whole the raggedest, dirtiest, noisiest set of little monkeys I ever saw. Soon after I could hear from every direction: "Harpers for August 20 cents!"

Give my love to all. This letter has been written before breakfast. I took a walk just after 5, returned to the office & here I am. I suspect Lizzie is not up. She don't know I am writing. Yesterday morning I worked two hours & over in the flower garden before breakfast.

Your affectionate brother
Otis

Capt Sumner. You will now see her
and your other neighbors often
since you have been relieved of
a part of your care -

Tell Father that I think that if
some slight had known, that Mr.
Morris would have come so
near an Election, and missed
it! They would have voted for
him - Mr. Forsythe, to whom I
gave that Election, said he
expected to have the money a
week ago last Saturday, but I have
not yet received it. The man
said he would pay \$25.00 - I should
like to use the money towards my
expenses here, if agreeable as it
will save some trouble of sending
home - Write me soon. Mother
and let me hear about yourself &
your family -

Your affectionate son
Rufus

Dord. Coll. Sep. 21.
[1855]

My dear Mother

Do you get time
to feel home some day now days?
I thought that perhaps you might
now that we are all gone. So I
am writing you as soon as I
can - Otis came down here in
the morning train yesterday, as
he proposed, and remained
with me till after dinner and
then we went down to Harwich.

Otis was well & in good spirits.
He seemed to be thinking of
money and looking out for his
finances a little more than usual.

He says he will lay up half
of his pay and perhaps come
home next Spring for a day
or two. Prudence comes with
age, mother, and I have no

doubt that if Otis and I live some
years. You will find us as close-
-fisted as any friend could
wish. But now it is a painful
fact that money takes to itself
wings. Otis went into Portland
last night at 1/2 past 6 o'clock. Then
making Charles quite a visit. & I
returned to Brunswick at 1/2 o'clock.
having lost no college exercise
except prayers - as we have Wednesday
afternoons to prepare our themes.
Charles is well situated in
every aspect. Mr. Wiggin is an
excellent teacher and a pleasant
affable, gentlemanly man. The
school is large & flourishing &
under good discipline. Otis will go
to Boston in tonight's Boat. but
I think Lizzie will not go with
him as she would like to. The
journey would injure her and

surely the parting would be as hard
in Boston as Portland. Charles
and I took dinner at Mrs. Frost's
last Sabbath and found her family
very well. Charles will write you
about his visit here.

You recollect David Crawford
who was deformed. You saw him
at Kent's Hill. I was one of the
bearers at his funeral last
Saturday. He died as peacefully
as he lived. He was the most
Christlike person I ever knew -
always good, always happy. never
doing wrong, and apparently never
thinking wrong. His minister said
truly that in his death 'Earth lost
but Heaven gained'.

Belle wrote me almost three
pages yesterday & wrote me about
his school affairs. I shall answer
him soon. Remember me to
Miss Collins, if she is still at

126 9/21/1855 *From:* Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: Dear Mother [Eliza
Gilmore]

RBH-091

Bowd. Coll.

Source: Bowdoin

Bowd. Coll. Sep 21 [1855 was written in pencil]

My dear Mother,

Do you get times to feel lonesome any nowadays? I thought that perhaps you might now that we are all gone. So I am writing you as soon as I can. Otis came down here in the morning train yesterday, as he proposed, and remained with me till after dinner and then we went down to Yarmouth. Otis was well & in good spirits. He seemed to be thinking of money and looking out for his finances a little more than usual. He says he will lay up half of his pay, and perhaps come home next Spring for a day or two. Prudence comes with age, mother, and I have no doubt that if Otis and I live some years, you will find us as close-fisted as any friend could wish. But now it is a painful fact that money "takes to itself <ningo>". Otis went into Portland last night at ½ past 6 o'clock, thus making Charles quite a visit & I returned to Brunswick at 7 ½ o'clock, having lost no College exercise except prayers, as we have Wednesday afternoons to prepare our Themes,

Charles is well situated in every respect. Mr Wiggin is an excellent teacher and a pleasant affable, gentlemanly man. The school is large & flourishing & under good discipline. Otis will go to Boston in tonight's Boat, but I think Lizzie will not go with him as she would like to. The journey would injure her and surely the parting would be as hard in Boston as Portland. Charles and I took dinner at Mrs. Frosts last Sabbath and found her family very well. Charles will write you about his visit here.

You recollect David Crawford who was deformed. You saw him at Kents Hill I was one of the bearers at his funeral last Saturday. He died as peacefully as he lived. He was the most Christlike person I every knew – always good, always happy, never doing wrong, and apparently never thinking wrong. His minister said truly that in his death "Earth lost but Heaven gained".

Dellie wrote me almost three pages yesterday & told me about his school affairs. I shall answer him soon. Remember me to Miss Collier, if She is still at Capt Turners. You will now see her and your other neighbors oftener since you have been relieved of a part of your care.

Tell Father that I think that if some Whigs had known that Mr. Morrill would have come so near an Election and missed of it, they would have voted for him. Mr Forswith, to whom I gave that elocution said he expected to have the money a week ago last Saturday, but I have not received it. The man said he would pay \$25.00. I should like to use the money towards my Expences here, if agreeable as it will cure some troubles of sending home.

Write me soon, Mother and tell me about yourself & your family.

Your affectionate son
Rowland

of College life, and most likely you will never have another
skill in the Elementary branches. You cannot possibly
retain all that you are examined with, but you will
have at your disposal if you are diligent much
that will come in play hereafter. I presume you are
purposing and procrastinating a little. You are 21 in
seventeen days from date I believe. Tell us something
of the inner man. You speak of the improvement
that you propose in our little hazy ground. I have
nothing ahead just now. Father has my note for \$200⁰⁰/₁₀₀
dollars. Still you will have my hearty cooperation in
anything of the kind and I will try to give whatever
pecuniary assistance is requisite. Lizzie sends her
love to you. With soon I tell Charlie to write if
he is returned. We are having very cold weather
here, cold enough for fires. Occasionally I go to toast my
feet in the kitchen, but we have had ~~not~~ no
fire in our furnace yet. Good night.

Your affectionate brother

O. O. Howard

Waterville, Maine N. Y.
October 1st 1855

Dear Brother:

We have received two letters from
you since either myself or Lizzie has written
you. I wrote to Charlie as soon as we learned from
you that he was ill; but have heard nothing since. Has
he recovered and returned to his studies? I am
still anxious about him, but I think mother would
write if he were not convalescent. We are still getting
on bravely & independently. I say independently, for
we have a horse & carriage of our own and can
ride where & when we please, go off on short fishing
excursions or attend Barnum's baby shows at
Albany. You know everybody; our horse is the best -
the same holds true with ours. His name is Maleck -
the Grand-son of three Arabians that were presented to
Van Buren I think. Maleck was brought up by Maj. Lorington
from a colt. is between 8 and ten years of age - finely
proportioned and purely white. He is active and playful
and yet very gentle, and as good a snaffle horse as I ever
saw. Lizzie likes him very much, pats him & feeds him and

rides after him when he goes full speed without looking
fearful. My carriage is what they call in this country a
"covered Buggy"; we call it a four wheel carriage. It is quite
a ~~new~~ second-hand one that I bought for seventy five
dollars. I wish you would come and have a ride after
our horse. I would take you to Cohoes falls on the
Mohawk. to Saratoga Springs & Lake. to Albany. to
Waterford, &c. Waterford is where father stopped when
he was on this part of N. York and where Edward came
from. It is about five miles above on the Hudson. I learned
the other day that the proprietor of the Hotel where father
stopped at it is driving an Express between that place
and Troy. I thought I would look him up, but have
not seen him yet. I generally ride back about the
post on horse back, the day I am Officer of the day and
drive Lizzie out somewhere every second day.
This gives me plenty of exercise in the open air which
makes me feel stronger & beautifies my countenance
with sundry looks of tan. I have had quite a fishing
mania of late and manage to keep the breakfast
table pretty well supplied with a variety of the scaly tribe.
Lizzie has threatened to tell you that I have the toothache ^(tooth-ache)
very frequently and that I have had a slight touch of it
to night. but I believe she concluded to cry over it instead.
I had the stone without minding the parenthesis that she inserted while

I stopped to think. She is waiting to her mother at the same
table with me. The latter is coming to us as soon as she
can make the necessary arrangements, perhaps in
two or three ~~weeks~~ weeks. I think she will enjoy herself
here now we have a cow for milk & butter and
a horse & carriage to ride. I don't care now how
long we are supposed to remain here. It is inconvenient
to have too many articles for a distant removal - but
I could easily take my horse to any place excepting to
West Point. Maj. Livingston is now away on a Court of Enquiry
at West Point, has been gone about a week; so there but
two officers of us on the Post. The duties however are not
arduous at all. Perry & Silas have both visited me since
I wrote you. Thought not at the same time. Perry came
here I think Friday morning & staid till four in the
afternoon & Silas came the Sunday following (a week
ago) The latter was on his way to visit his mother,
before she left in Perry's vessel for Galois. Both were
in fine health & spirits - and seemed much improved.
Perry is master of a small vessel, but is making
money very fast. He has been more than usually
fortunate. His wages are \$80. or per month, and he has
a grand chance to speculate in various commodities. How
did you get on at the Exhibition? I am glad to hear that you
are doing well in your studies - for this is your last year

127 10/1/1855 *From:* O. O. Howard

To: Dear Brother [RB
Howard]

RBH-092

Watervliet Arsenal N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

Watervliet Arsenal N.Y.
October 1st 1855

Dear Brother,

We have received two letters from you since either myself or Lizzie has written you. I wrote to Charlie as soon as we learned from you that he was ill, but have heard nothing since. Has he recovered and returned to his studies? I am still anxious about him, but I think mother would write if he were not convalescent.

We are still getting on bravely & independently. I say independently, for we have a house & carriage of our own, and can ride where & when we please, go off on short fishing excursions or attend Barnum's baby show at Albany. You know everybody's own horse is the best – the same holds true with ours. His name is Malech, the Grand-son of those Arabians that were presented to Van Buren I think. Malech was brought up by Maj Symington from a colt. Is between 8 and ten years of age, finely proportioned and purely white. He is active and playful and yet very gentle, and as good a saddle horse as I ever saw. Lizzie likes him very much, pats him & feeds him and rides after he when he goes full speed without looking terrified.

My carriage is what they call in this country a "covered Buggy", we call it a four wheeled carriage. It is quite a nice second-hand one that I bought for seventy five dollars. I wish you would come and have a ride after our horse. I would take you to Cohoes falls on the Mohawk, to Saratoga springs & lake, to Albany, to Waterford, &c.

Waterford is where father stopped when he was in this part of N. York and where Edward came from. It is about five miles above on the Hudson. I learned the other day that the proprietor of the Hotel when father stopped at W is driving an Express between that place and Troy. I thought I would look him up but have not seen him yet.

I generally ride Malech about the post on horse back, the day I am Officer of the day, and drive Lizzie out somewhere every second day. This gives me plenty of exercise in the open air which makes me feel stronger & beautifies my countenance with sundry coats of tan. I have had quite a fishing mania of late and manage to keep the breakfast table pretty well supplied with a variety of the scaly tribe.

Lizzie has threatened to tell you that I have the toothache (tobacco tooth-ache) very frequently and that I have had a slight touch of it to night, but I believe she concluded to cry over it instead. I had the above without minding the parentheses that she inserted while I stopped to think. She is writing to her mother at the same table with me. The latter is coming to us as soon as she can make the necessary arrangements, perhaps in two or three weeks. I think she will enjoy herself here now we have a cow for milch & butter and a horse & carriage to ride.

I don't care now how long we are supposed to remain here. It is inconvenient to have too many articles for a distant removal, but I could easily take my horse to any place excepting to West Point. Maj Symington is now away on a Court of Inquiry at West Point, has been gone about a week; so there but two officers of us on the Post. The duties however are not arduous at all.

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How did you get on at the Exhibition? I am glad to hear that you are doing well in your studies, for this is your last year of College life, and most likely you will never have another drill in the Elementary branches. You

cannot possibly retain all that you are crammed with, but you will have at your disposal if you are diligent much that will come in play hereafter. I presume you are purposing and prognosticating a little. You are 21 in seventeen days from date I believe. Tell us something of the inner man.

You spoke once of the improvements that you propose in our little burying ground. I have nothing ahead just now, father has my note for 200 00/100 dollars. Still you will have my hearty cooperation in anything of the kind and I will try to give whatever pecuniary assistance is requisite.

Lizzie sends her love to you. Write soon & tell Charlie to write if he is returned. We are having very cold weather here, cold enough for fires. Occasionally I go to toast my feet in the kitchen, but we have had no fire in our furnace yet. Good night.

Your affectionate brother
O. O. Howard