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is compart in anything alsort of a livery actigance faith, its Maturtics Annal A.Y. Oct 15th 1855. Dear Brother, I received your letter in due Season and you will perceive by any date That I am Justing forom get in my refiling. bust as I was on the point of writing you that I did not know when Lizzie's mother wonder start for Georg. Ahe arrived. The came last Finday working. had written no a letter which came the next day after had telegraphed in Boston, which missage dia not come at all: So were taken completely by surprise. The had company through to albany but journeyed from Allany to this Aller alone. To you are about to become a citizen "which I never was" Don't you remember the time I did not vote for Morde. There I was a Bit to all intents and purposes for a short space of time. There is so very much comfort in being your ann man' as there would be if you were to dome mito some large estate or to have Some what wherewith to prop like your increasing dignity- But to! I have been writing for five minutes without thinking. Comfort in an Estate - it is folly if This

is compart in anything short of a line seligions furth, it Nests in the consciousness that you are in your proper place. That there is a juculiar adaptation between your inward self and your autward life. If one has as studied himself that at 21 her can fix upon his proper My here of action and lay down a chart of his puture fille of babor. he is fit to become a citizen, provided of course that he has the requisite stability to back him. A quick genies that readily adapts himself to every vicititude. to every change of mind & tide does not always attain The most the one that is far reaching & antrepations is the Anguran, Without Elaborating this idea I wish to him abraptly to another. You say you are a reader and a pretty close thinker. I never have been a great reader and don't know whether I am a thinker or not . I am not much af a inionary or Suculator now. Ithink you are a little of both. What begets a want of confidence in the integrity of men ? I presume it is finding them false when you expected to find them time. As long as you are conscious of integrity. it is fair to suppose that there To then and whe are like you and on the controny of you are false, heartice, your judgment clases to be clear and Eandid, It is very will in ascertaming physical laws to argue from yearticular facts to general principles. has tenen here you can never arrive at more than probable

conclassione. But be cantions about basing your social Condition whom continsions theirs drawn. Jusely you were enoneous of you expected perfection in any man either existing in the flish or in history. But you have made a too sudden transition to the other extreme. If fames is my poeritical it does not gollow that John is So. Believe mi there are honest men. They are not always uppurmost surely and not necessarily Geninses. I would as have my brother go into the world unprepared to must vice in all its formas. but I wonlie quard against a premature contempt of I may speak so) for the people of this basy world. Seek how you may use Them," Alters have done so but providence has over suled Them. Suck to benefit them you reak your remard. Thingghe for truth and your concence is your support. What I say is trate I know. but ane cansust too often be controned against a morang hias - You exhibit your ason idea of greatings in the language you are the show that the socalles have not attand A. Tias men a fair judgmentand you will find many a one whose misdads were but miscarrys - The whole ain of whose labors were for the came of truth, and whose mind exis was attended with more blessings than sunses. Furt you lake under a comp d'orl' the realmo of

128 10/15/1855 *From:* Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dear Brother [RB Howard]

RBH-093

Watervliet Arsenal N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

Watervliet Arsenal N.Y. Oct 15th 1855

Dear Brother,

I received your letter in due season, and you will perceive by my date that I am pretty prompt in my reply. Just as I was on the point of writing you that I did not know when Lizzie's mother would start for Troy, she arrived. She came last Friday evening, had written us a letter which came the next day after & had telegraphed in Boston, which message did not come at all. So we were taken completely by surprise. She had company through to Albany but journeyed from Albany to this place alone.

So you are about to become a citizen "which I never was." Don't you remember the time I did not vote for Morrell. Then I was a cit. to all intents and purposes for a short space of time. There is'nt so very much comfort in "being your own man" as there would be if you were to come into some large estate or to have some what wherewith to prop up your increasing dignity. But ho! I have been writing for five minutes without thinking. "Comfort in an Estate" - it is folly, if there is comfort in anything short of a lively religious faith, it rests in the consciousness that you are in your proper place, that there is a peculiar adaptation between your inward self and your outward life. If one has so studied himself that at 21 he can fix upon his proper sphere of action, and lay down a chart of his future field of labor, he is fit to become a citizen, provided of course that he has the requisite stability to back him. A quick genius that readily adapts himself to every vicissitude, to every change of mind & tide does not always attain the most. The one that is far-reaching & anticipatory is the superior.

Without elaborating this idea I wish to turn abruptly to another. You say you are a reader and a pretty close thinker. I never have been a great reader and don't know whether I am a thinker or not. I am not much of a visionary or speculator now. I think you are a little of both. What begets a want of confidence in the integrity of men? I presume it is finding them false when you expected to find them true. As long as you are conscious of integrity, it is fair to suppose that there are others who are like you, and on the contrary if you are false-hearted, your judgment ceases to be clear and candid. It is very well in ascertaining physical laws to argue from particular facts to general principles, but even here you can never arrive at more than probable conclusions. But be cautious about basing your social condition upon conclusions thus drawn. Surely you were erroneous if you expected perfection in any man either existent in the flesh or in history. But you have made a too sudden transition to the other extreme. If James is hypercritical it does'nt follow that John is so. Believe me, there are honest men. They are not always uppermost surely, and not necessarily geniuses. I would'nt have my brother go into the world unprepared to meet vice in all its forms, but I would guard against a premature contempt (if I may speak so) for the people of this busy world. "Seek how you may use them." Others have done so but Providence has over-ruled them. Seek to benefit them. You reap your reward. Struggle for truth and your conscience is your support.

What I say is trite I know, but one cannot too often be cautioned against a wrong bias. You exhibit your own idea of greatness in the language you use to show that the so-called have not attained it. Give men a fair judgment and you will find many a one whose misdeeds were but miscarrys – the whole aim of whose labors were for the cause of truth, and whose final exit was attended with more blessings than curses.

First you take under a "coup d'oel' the realms of literature & philosophy – point at the geniuses who have figured there. I will not reply specifically for I shall get tiresome, but admit facts prejudiced, statesmen unpatriotic, soldiers only brave – for these are the objectionable qualities. It is an answer & unlogical deduction to infer the great World unworthy of confidence, and you don't mean it is so; this hasty glance – only gave me to understand the manner you arrive at your conclusions, but I beg of you to review candidly the several classes you name – the prejudice of the fact may be redeemed, the want of patriotism as a sweeping assertion is too broad and the only applied to the soldier's bravery objectionable. But too much argumentation does'nt befit a letter or my profession so here's good night & God bless you and set you right when perchance you may be wrong.

Lizzie sends her love, her mother would, but has gone to bed. I gave her a ride to day after our horse. She is much pleased with him. My love to Charlie if he is back. Hope mother is well. How did she look while at Brunswick?

Your affectionate brother Otis

that I will son your Waterotul arenal My Per 22 m 18 5 5 Scar Brother This Symington will liave this place Wednesday to inspect Champlan & Hinnehre assenals. He will probably page Monghe Bronswick some time next week - Ishall und a package by him to you. He will give the came to the Conductor. If you and at the cars. between yourself. This Conductor & Major Symington you may make a matural acquaintance. I wish of you can arrange it to do so that you might accompany him to Augusta. But that's no matter look ont for him I the package -Description of the Major - Whenands of 50 - light horn hair not gray very prominent - nose I red - This peatine

is remarkable by it he is always mistaken by strangers for a hand drinker but he never laters a chock The is a pleasant backing man. stringht rather stender. about your height. This with his having the package will identify him -May low to Charlin - hope In is buck & mile -Jam to Kontand from Lessie y mother 1 spectrumble, James O.U. Howard Carro Same general the grande man mandle at secretical account farmer & with of your can marge the the company them the allign They love & the package - -

RBH-094

Watervliet Arsenal N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

Watervliet Arsenal N.Y. Oct 22nd 1855

Dear Brother,

Maj. Symington will leave this place Wednesday to inspect Champlain & Kennebec Arsenals. He will probably pass through Brunswick some time next week. I shall send a package by him to you. He will give the same to the Conductor. If you are at the cars, between yourself, the Conductor & Major Symington you may make a mutual acquaintance. I wish if you can arrange it to do so that you might accompany him to Augusta. But that's no matter - look out for him & the package.

Description of the Major - upwards of 50, light brown hair, straight & not gray, very prominent nose & red. This feature is remarkable - by it he is always mistaken by strangers for a hard drinker, but he never takes a drop. He is a pleasant looking man, straight, rather slender, about your height. This with his having the package will identify him.

My love to Charlie, hope he is back & well.

Love to Rowland from Lizzie & mother.

Affectionately yours, O. O. Howard

alines the well some the drugster to 1. I altra me the Therman have the Materiliet asenal 1. 4. Charle terether in presto Encents Nov.7# 1833 West ste Dear Butter I secured your letter this morning after watting for a work with the little angely .-I am glass you and Charlie are So well I'm a good efinite. I have been making inguires this worning . I' find some employmunt that could make you to come to me for the winter. Ithmak the school and engaged in This section of the country. But Mr Wittee our soney of working & President of West Trong - says In think, he can get a place you you to do up the writing Jur some large establishment-I total min here little was your experimen while I landed your general

merit. Phe carps he will make I his budenep to make myneries I wo don't will encend in Anding a cacinezy - To don't Engage yourself to a school permanently until you hear from me - They pay here from 30 h bo dollars purmonth in The willage schools - They are said to have an excellent law Echore at albang - all and lowe to your & Churche - Tell Chorlie me don't have any thank giving day him as we come the property of the territes Chales. but he can have a Ferkey most any time . This Wath says the will cat a thouks giving harkey with him . Then anyword par you to come to spind the minter with us but your and interest must be consulted. you will her from me again shortly appectroally Mr brother

J. J. Menember m to Chamberlin Charles teacter in greaks Event Metto se

130 11/7/1855 From: Otis [OO Howard]

To: Dear Brother [RB Howard]

RBH-095

Watervliet Arsenal N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

Watervliet Arsenal, N.Y. Nov 7th 1855

Dear Brother

I received your letter this morning after waiting for a week with no little anxiety. I am glad you and Charlie are so well & in so good spirits.

I have been making inquiries this morning to find some employment that could induce you to come to us for the winter. I think the schools are engaged in this section of the country, but Mr Witbee our chief of work men & President of West Troy, says he thinks he can get a place for you to do up the writing for some large establishment. I told him how little was your experience while I lauded your general merit. He says he will make it his business to make inquiries & no doubt will succeed in finding a vacancy. So don't engage yourself to a school permanently until you hear from me. They pay here from 30 to 50 dollars per month in the village schools. They are said to have an excellent law school at Albany.

All send love to you & Charlie. Tell Charlie we don't have any Thanksgiving day here, as we are the property of the United States, but he can have a Turkey most anytime. Mrs. Waite says she will eat a Thanksgiving turkey with him. I am anxious for you to come to spend the winter with us but your own interest must be consulted.

You will hear from me again shortly.

Affectionately yr brother Otis

P.S. Remember me to Chamberlain, Charles' teacher in Greek, Everett Webb &c.

will be coming to cause our spinits to fall. I do fal more and more the responsibilities of a mon dawning whom me . but I trust That I shall be equal to them - Hungh the lave and quidance of the human soul gradually unfolding itself by the reception the formale freshe to undertake. She as in all things I else, do your best and you will sut find of seward .. Charlie is expecting to mut you time my a week from next-saturday. Dont fear you will trouble us by coming .) I huge matter will be clown soon - your can bring her that if Father ear & before. We are very emportably setucted - have a fine in the goale in Lizzies nour beretes me can open the segister of the furnace at pleasure - the former sinders the room very charful. The Jusple are very attention. The laction on all hands are willing to do any thing for us - sam glad that some body from Marrie has come to the Green al - Some are bettery anyered that I have eloud the little I gate and that up the common thorough - Jane Mongh & an grounds - Lizzie said she would be delighted

locate a fortaught of a fileer which is Mennebec Arsenal Augusta Mr. Dec 19-1855. not the first love meeter and I mea Dear Brother, and a him Thartie was here and mote hyon an Sunday night and as I had other letters to write, I thought I would let yours stick Till a more convenient apportunity offerred theld. I received your congratulating effister this evening and did not abserve your warning till I have read it through to Sizzie. She said till him the marning was too late. Your letter So good and to characteristic pleased he very much, so much that she made me read it to her a second time. The is a little tined to night from norsing her baby. and has gone to sleep. Charlie went back to his school monday morning. I carried frim, The sams in very good health - likes tas estuation and is very much liked by Scholans & prople - I went into his school room on friday afternoon and staid long trongh to su how he conducts matters;

He boards a fortnight in a place, which is hetter than a change every week. I stopped some letter time at Mr Wiggins, where he signer the first two weeks, and I near wished a pleasanter family, them this sumed. He is now at a mr Appletois. a man who same here yesterday to bury one of my colta. It & has not decided yet whether to take him as not. The people of longasta will not let our soldier's children go to setud in the how not even by Jerging a proportional part for their schooling --After trying to flatter the nighboring pinghe of the district out of their selfishnep -I have permitted the seven scholor of The post to study at my office and I hear their lepons myself. This with my duties proper kups me pretty busy. non of the friends at Hollowell have called upon us - I fear we are porgotting by them, or they are Shite expecting me to learny Sizzie "right there as they requested. I believe I have now heren tantatiging enough - in av ansproving very letter as to kup from you what you most wished to learn, and what Laura is writing to hear

till the last. Lizzie die here a hard stronge wan Sunday - plas que je pripe penser - But her string the y courage wire ever upparmost. Since, She has continued quite well - She looks a shade palar than asseal, but her eyes are bright and the is very happy with her little and . She will even he able to sit up -Our Dactor who is a knice, lawful man and a physician of lytension practice says he herer raw and in a more povor oble condition than Lizzin is now. The letter boy meighed Eight ferrinds, has a very good formed head already and is with al as promising as any ones first barn - Tell kinche Emergn . that my head is never wheet - With the assistance of my Accord Frather, I hope to preserve my equaninity in good and ill. farture - but according to this Inyders thanks giving Cormon, I unst say that I have norson to be especially Mankfule. Mat mo de lack betides. My anders coming at to unsecondblochine & causing so much exertiment I so long a farming in wanter. might heave made a lip sanguine temperament tremble for the ensequences. but the finale has Thus for gowen us pry & we hust that no severies

To: Dear Brother [RB Howard]

RBH-096

Kennebec Arsenal Augusta Me.

Source: Bowdoin

Kennebec Arsenal Augusta Me Dec. 19, 1855.

Dear Brother,

Charlie was here and wrote you on Sunday night, and as I had other letters to write, I thought I would let yours slide till a more convenient opportunity offered itself. I received your congratulating epistle this evening and did not observe your warning till I had read it through to Lizzie. She said tell him the warning was too late. Your letter so good and so characteristic pleased her very much, so much that she made me read it to her a second time. She is a little tired tonight from nursing her baby, and has gone to sleep.

Charlie went back to his school Monday morning. I carried him. He seems in very good health, likes his situation and is very much liked by scholars & people. I went into his school room on Friday afternoon and staid long enough to see how he conducts matters. He boards a fortnight in a place, which is better than a change every week. I stopped some little time at Mr. Wiggins, where he sojourned the first two weeks, and I never visited a pleasanter family, then his seemed. He is now at a Mr. Appleton's, a man who came here yesterday to buy one of my colts. He has not decided yet whether to take him or not.

The people of Augusta will not let our soldier's children go to school in the town, not even by paying a proportional part for their schooling. After trying in vain to flatter the neighboring people of the district out of their selfishness, I have permitted the seven scholars of the post to study at my office and I hear their lessons myself. This with my duties proper keeps me pretty busy. None of the friends at Hallowell have called upon us. I fear we are forgotten by them, or they are still expecting me to carry Lizzie "right there" as they requested.

I believe I have now been tantalizing enough, in so disposing my letter, as to keep from you what you most wished to learn, and what Laura is waiting to hear till the last. Lizzie did have a hard struggle on Sunday - plus que je puisse penser. But her strength & courage were ever uppermost. Since, she has continued quite well. She looks a shade paler than usual, but her eyes are bright and she is very happy with her little one [Guy Howard was born Sunday, Dec 16, 1855]. She will soon be able to sit up. Our Doctor who is a kind, careful man and a physician of extensive practice, says he never saw one in a more favorable condition than Lizzie is now. The little boy weighed eight pounds has a very good formed head already and is withal as promising as anyone's first born. Tell Uncle Ensign that my head is never upset. With the assistance of my Heavenly Father, I hope to preserve my equanimity in good and ill fortune, but according to Mr. Snyder's Thanksgiving sermon, I must say that I have reason to be especially thankful, that no ill-luck betides.

My orders coming at so unseasonable a time & causing so much excitement & so long a journey in winter, might have made a less sanguine temperament tremble for the consequences, but the finale has thus far given us joy & we trust that no reverses will be coming to cause our spirits to fall. I do feel more and more the responsibilities of a man dawning upon me, but I trust that I shall be equal to them, though the care and guidance of the human soul gradually unfolding itself by the reception of knowledge is a trust that one might tremble to undertake. Still as in all things else, do your best and you will not fail of reward.

Charlie is expecting to meet you home a week from next Saturday. Don't fear you will trouble us by coming. I hope mother will be down soon. You can bring her then if Father can't before. We are very comfortably situated, have a fire in the grate in Lizzie's room besides we can open the register of the furnace at pleasure. The former renders the room very cheerful.

The people are very attentive. The ladies on all hands are willing to do anything for us, seem glad that somebody from Maine has come to the arsenal. Some are bitterly angered that I have closed the little gate and shut up the common thorough-fair through our grounds.

Lizzie said she would be delighted to see you but feared the baby would not be pretty in a fortnight. Write often as you can.

Affectionately yr brother Otis

Leeds Dec. 20. 155 My dear hearth I wish you a heppy very hoppy new your ! and that is all I'm going to lag now in this note milter in a great burg, is to request me mere gava in a bus in of may. ble Book - Will you call at vour of your music dealers & obtain it - a if they do not have it, they can order it of the Viels. I you can obtain it ? I amer like to have it forwarded to Leels Center - by Winslow & leves Express - Without knowing low I there ever repers you por this & cincles timbles - I still an your priend Robbaracel

cello Sec. 30 1455 miller recenter rong beapy ween your ! and it and to all its arrive to lag these min up a generale span -This with resilting for a gainer huma, in the request of price geven in to bus in ap in arist for a Grand Hoilks the thorse " Wills gave call an forme of your musice dealers of Marine the or if they do and have & they can orecar it of the Rebs. when to here it gow ander the Teres Center - way winder & teren " . & prefar - mitterich , there into freezes I line are repair the particle of angling land far all galles and marin Marianel 1212 April 200

132 12/21/1855 *From:* RB Howard

To: Frank [Gilman]

RBH-097

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

Leeds Dec. 21, 1855

My dear Frank

I wish you a happy very happy new year! And that is all I'm going to say now in a general way.

This note written in a great hurry, is to request one more favor in a business way.

I wish for a "Young Folks Glee Book". Will you call at some of your music dealers & obtain it, or if they do not have it, they can order it of the Pubs.

If you can obtain it, I would like to have it forwarded to Leeds Center, by Winslow & Cos. Express. Without knowing how I shall ever repay you for this & similar troubles, I still am your friend.

RB Howard