

March 28th 1857

March 28th 1857

Portland B. Howard

The above named
individual notes

and I now subscribe

Portland B. Howard

Union Depot

Fort Brooke Fla.

March 15. 1857.

Dear Brother,

Please acknowledge this letter
on receipt. I have been to Church this morning &
listened to a very good sermon indeed addressed
to the children of the Sabbath school. It was very
simple & plain & quite earnest. Our preacher, the only
one in this village or city is an Irishman & a Methodist.
I understand he was formerly a Catholic Priest. He has
the "sweet Irish tongue" more than pleases my ear, but
he seems a very sincere & good man, and as there is
no other opportunity for Church Service I have resolved
to go & hear him when I can. I hardly know
when you are just now. Lizzie writes me from
Sewiston that I may direct my letters to Auburn
or Sewiston, but I have been directing them to
Sears. I thought she would certainly decide to go there.
I want to hear from Mother. I am afraid Mother
won't attribute it to the proper motive if she does not
go there. Lizzie thinks you will miss you very much.
Just to think, he should learn to say Uncle before he
died please! Lizzie has given me a good history of the

journey, & visit in Boston & the vicinity. I got her
last letter from Lewiston in ten days from the
time it was mailed. I am living in my office
now. Bed & fixings on one side, desks on the
other, chairs between - room enough for a bachelor -
had less space at Portsmouth and not much more
at West Point. It is rather lonely up here - It is
such a boxed up place, nobody can find the way -

General Harny has gone into the field, into
the "Big Cypress." I gave an account of the
skirmish that occasioned his going in Siggie's
last letter & also in a letter to Fella. I also wrote
to Jackson ^{at Albany} the particulars. Never mind if Siggie
does write all the news. Different observers take
different views. She might notice Guy's bearing &
personal attractions & you his mental proclivities.
See C.C. told me his language was labial - My
lips were instantly in motion - How can he say
Ann or Uncle with his lips? Siggie would notice
people & tell how they were dressed & how they behaved -
You might peep behind the screen that every man
& woman is obliged to keep between ^{or her} him & his neighbor.
In brief I like different accounts of similar people & things.
Tell me about Uncle Ensign - You understand &
appreciate him - About Mother, how she is looking

and what she has to say: What she thinks
of Florida. How is father: & what is he saying
himself about. How is domestic life just under
the pill - Holland, Cynthia & the boy. But why
should I dictate - Make the most of your money
my dear brother & get in debt as little as you
can - You have many blessings - I don't
want you to talk or think about poverty -
There is no fear in that direction -

It is getting dark & I am sorry to be
obliged to close this letter with so little
in it, but give my love to Mother & Father -
and remember that my heart is in
the right place.

148 3/15/1857 *From:* [OO Howard]

To: Dear Brother [RB
Howard]

RBH-113

Ordnance Depot
Fort Brooke Fla

Source: Bowdoin

Ordnance Depot
Fort Brooke Fla
March 15, 1857.

Dear Brother,

Please acknowledge this letter on receipt. I have been to church this morning & listen till very good sermon indeed addressed to the children of the Sabbath school. It was very simple & plain & quite earnest. Our preacher, the only one in the village or city has an Irishman & a Methodist. I understand he was formerly a Catholic Priest. He has the "sweet Irish broke", more than pleases my ear, but he seems a very sincere & good man, and as there is no other opportunity for Church Service I have resolved to go & hear him when I can.

I hardly know where you are just now. Lizzie writes me from Lewiston that I may direct my letters to all burn or Lewiston, but I have been directing them to Leeds. I thought she would certainly decide to go there. I want to hear from Mother. I am afraid Mother won't attribute it to the proper motive if she doesn't go there. Lizzie things that I will miss you very much. Just think, he should learn to say Uncle before he did Papa! Lizzie has given me a good history of the journey & visit in Boston & vicinity. I got her last letter from Lewiston in 10 days from the time it was mailed.

I am living in my Office now. Bed & fixings on one side, desks on the other, chairs between - room enough for a bachelor. Had less space at Yarmouth and not much more that West Point. It is rather lonely up here. It is such a boxed up place, nobody can find his way.

General Harney has gone into the field, into the "Big Cypress". I gave an account of the Skirmish is going in Lizzie's last letter & also in a letter to Dellie. I also wrote to Jackson of Albany the particulars. Never mind if Lizzie does write all the news. Different observers take different views. She might notice Guy's bearing & personal attractions & new his mental proclivities. Lee C. C. told me his language was labial. My lips were instantly in motion. How can he say and are uncle with his lips. Lizzie would notice people & tell how they were dressed & how they behave. You might peep behind the scene that every man & woman is obliged to keep between him or her & him or her neighbor. In brief I like different accounts of similar people & things.

Tell me about Uncle Ensign. You understand & appreciate him, about Mother, how she is looking and what she has to say. What she thinks of Florida. I was father, & what is he busying himself about. How is domestic life just under the hill - Roland, Cynthia & the boy. But why should I dictate. Make the most of your money my dear brother & get in debt as little fish can. Your many blessings. I don't want you to talk or think about poverty, there is no fear in that direction.

It is getting dark & I am sorry to be obliged closed letter with so little in it, but give my love to mother & father, and remember that my heart is in the right place.

[The closing has been cut out. The following had been added to the back of the letter.]

March 28th, 1857

March 28th, 1857

Rowland B. Howard

the above-named individual wrote this & now subscribes.

Rowland B. Howard

Oldman's Depot

Fort Brooke Fla.

March 24th/57

Dear Brother,

I received your letter from
Bath by the last Mail. At the same time came
one from Mother and two from Lizzie. I give
you full credit for your chittiness & success in
bringing your "convey" safely to Lewiston. Lizzie
writes me she will be glad to spend the
summer at Leeds and as Mother & myself would
be glad to have her do so, I presume it is
so fixed upon by this time. You must not
press father too hard. His affairs may come
out bright yet. He has done much for us and
now we are old enough to do much for
ourselves. In any way I can assist you I will
do so with pleasure. You must put your
account in some shape. Give Lizzie your note
for the amount running to me without interest.

I think I can let you have enough to defray your
expenses at either Cambridge or Albany. Go ahead &
write me often what it costs you. I will keep you out
of jail if you are careful. Since my armorer has come I
have got quite a work shop. We are now repairing
rifles. I am going to make all the repairs I can to

some transporting everything to Baton Rouge &
back again. I have laid out quite a large garden
and planted the most of it. Last night just
before sunset I set out a large bed of tomato
plants. We need rain very much. The sun
is very hot already and the ground too dry
for anything to grow. You are not troubled
that way I presume. Though it will be
a spell before you get this. I haven't seen much
winter this year. What do you think of the

decision of the U. S. Supreme Court - The Missouri
Compromise unconstitutional, and a colored
man cannot be a citizen of the United States?

Isn't it strange what different ideas of law appertain
to different sections of country. The same section
is understood differently by a man residing in Virginia
& a resident of Massachusetts. "Congress has the power
to make all needful rules & regulations &c" means that
Congress has no power at all by the Constitution. Well, let

the dear people fight it out. The papers state that
Governor Geary has resigned, who is to take his
place? I don't get the news very regularly down
here and when I do it is ten days later than
you have it. I wish I had directed a trustworthy
person from New York to be sent me when I was there.

How is Charlie prospering? I presume he was

greatest burden of care when age is approaching. At the beginning of the game a man can look fortune boldly in the face, for he can repair a misstep or recover from a failure. But not so at sixty five. I hope and trust all will be for the best. If I could I would help Father out of his difficulties. Don't be too earnest about your rights my dear brother, let us give comfort and God will reward us. By pressing steadily & vigorously at the wheel we can roll it round, make for ourselves an independent establishment & be men that are men. I wish you would ask father if he was dissatisfied with the part I took in the sale of that land at Augusta, and with the charge I made. I understood he didn't like it. I was sorry I made any charge at all and I shouldn't if I had not thought he wanted me to. I supposed then; that he would allow in the settlement with Smith what he actually realized from the sale & no more. It is a past thing but I would like for curiosity's sake to know if he disapproved of the course I took. Will you ask mother if my note returning to her has been destroyed or if it was sent to me? I have forgotten, but presume it is all right. I mean the one for \$1000. — You spoke of the Dred Scott decision. I read Judge Curtis's opinion, and I told St. Nazaire, I could think how he could have been so pat to mine without consulting me. Now isn't the subject well handled. I trust ^{in that case} no jurisdiction, } Men of color can be citizens of the United States, and the Missouri Compromise is constitutional. Moreover "Congress," actually, "shall have power to dispose of and

You are overrated. How many young people will make it in the world, when we can tell: "The Power of your Father's & Mother's."

JMU

make all needful rules & regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States;". With coolness, calmness, dignity & sound argument, he met every issue and showed how Chief Justice Taney slipped up on a mere question of fact. Good! give a man his premises and we can prove that none of us are citizens. But the authority of gentleman judges, shall better be confined to cases of proper jurisdiction. Voluntary opinions are not over-much respected. The Circuit Court ~~is~~ is superior here now. Judge King presiding. There are several lawyers here but I reckon you could whip any of them but Mr Hart of Key West. He weighs two hundred & fifteen, but looks all fleshy & big man, he is very clever in the English & American sense of clever. I meant to have attended court last week but I did not get the license. One of the lawyers is a young man by the name of Rogers; a very pleasant fellow of fine & twenty. He is called Colonel. He was the leader in one of those southern expeditions to relieve Cuba. Had under him some six hundred men on the Steamer Tampino, now called the "Sovereign" & been recently in Government service between this & St. Orleans. Write what you please, it don't hurt news to read it twice, when told by different persons. I'll tell people. Two more Indians have been killed some square taken near Fort Copron and a camp of women & children surprised in the Bigley pass, but all escaped. They can cut run pursuit & soldiers don't want to kill women & babies. Good gracious, what a part of the news given

149 3/24/1857 *From:* O. O. Howard

To: Dear Brother [RB
Howard]

RBH-114

Ordnance Depot
Fort Brooke Fla

Source: Bowdoin

Ordnance Depot
Fort Brooke Fla.
March 24th /57

Dear Brother,

I received your letter from Bath by the last Mail. At the same time came one from Mother and two from Lizzie. I give you full credit for your diligence & success in bringing your "convoy" safely to Lewiston. Lizzie writes me she will be glad to spend the summer at Leeds and as Mother & myself would be glad to have her do so, I presume it is so fixed upon by this time. You must not press father too hard. His affairs may come out bright yet. He has done much for us and now we are old enough to do much for ourselves. In any way I can assist you I will do so with pleasure. You must put your account in some shape. Give Lizzie your note for the amount running to me without interest. I think I can let you have enough to defray your expenses at either Cambridge or Albany. Go ahead & write me often what it costs you. I will keep you out of Jail if you are careful.

Since my armorer has come I have got quite a workshop. We are now repairing Rifles. I am going to make all the repairs I can to save transporting everything to Baton Rouge & back again.

I have laid out quite a large garden and planted the most of it. Last night just before sunset I set out a large bed of tomato plants. We need rain very much. The sun is very hot already and the ground too dry for anything to grow. You are not troubled that way I presume, though it will be April before you get this. I haven't seen much winter this year.

What do you think of the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court - the Missouri compromise unconstitutional, and a colored man cannot be a citizen of the United States? Isn't it strange what different ideas of law appertain to different sections of country. The same section is understood differently by a man residing in Virginia & a resident of Massachusetts. "Congress has the power to make all needful rules & regulations &c." means that Congress has no power at all by the Constitution. Well, let the dear people fight it out. The papers state that Governor Geary has resigned. Who is to take his place? I don't get the news very regularly down here and when I do it is 10 days later than you have it. I wish I had directed a triweekly from New York to be sent me when I was there.

How is Charlie prospering? I presume he was

[missing page]

greatest burden of care when age is approaching. At the beginning of the game a man can look fortune boldly in the face, for he can repair a misstep or recover from a failure, but not so at 65. I hope and trust all will be for the best. If I could I would help Father out of his difficulties. Don't be too earnest about your rights my dear brother, let us give comfort and God will reward us. By pressing steadily & vigorously at the wheel, we can roll it round, make for ourselves an independent establishment & be men that are men. I wish you would ask father if he was dissatisfied with the part I took in the sale of that land at Augusta, and with the charge I made. I understood he didn't like it. I was sorry I made any charge at all and I shouldn't if I hadn't thought he wanted me to. I supposed this, that he would allow in the settlement with Smith what he actually realized from the sale & no more. It is a past thing but I would like for curiosity's sake to know if he disapproved of the course I took. Will you ask mother if my note running to her has been destroyed or if it was sent to me? I have forgotten, but presume it is all right. I mean the one for \$1600.

You spoke of the Dred Scott decision. I read Judge Curtis's opinion, and I told Lt. Hazzard, I could think how his could have been so "pat" to mine without consulting me. Now isn't the subject well handled. S. Court no jurisdiction in that case. Men of color can be citizens of the United States, and the Missouri compromise is constitutional. Moreover "Congress" actually "shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules & regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States;". With coolness, calmness,

dignity & sound argument, he met every issue and showed how Chief Justice Taney slipped up on a mere question of fact. Good! Give the man his premises and he can prove that none of us are citizens. But the Authority of Gentlemen Judges, had better be confined to cases of proper jurisdiction. Volunteer opinions are not over-much respected.

The Circuit Court is in session here now, Judge King presiding. There are several lawyers here but I reckon you could whip any of them but Mr. Hart of Key West. He weighs 200 & 15, but like all fleshy & big men, he is very clever in the English & American sense of clever. I meant to have attended court last week but didn't get the leisure. One of the lawyers is a young man by the name of Rogers, a very pleasant fellow of five & twenty. He is called Colonel. He was the leader in one of those southern expeditions to relieve Cuba, had under him some six hundred men on the Steamer Pampina, now called the "Swany" & been recently in Government service between this & N. Orleans.

Write what you please, it don't hurt news to read it twice, when told by different persons. Tell Leeds people, two more Indians have been killed & one squaw taken near Fort Capron and a camp of women & children surprised in the Big Cypress, but all escaped. They can out run pursuit & soldiers don't want to kill women & babies. Good gracious. What a part of the rising generation you enumerate. How many young people we will meet in the world, whom we can tell: "we knew your fathers & mothers."

Your affectionate brother
O. O. Howard

of Miss "Sam" to a private thing & face an
Postscript -

I shall go to Lewiston or somewhere
& to work - I am fairly dissatisfied
with myself tonight for this illness -
Will see tomorrow evening if you
please - You may see me before the
Term is out - but it is uncertain - We
are all well - I carried my down to
Capt. Sumner today & to the barn where
we have a beautifully marked white
& red calf - I have topped 12 trees
& we have a little top & a very little
"group" for the children - Mrs. Sumner
(Capt.) remains quite sick - also Sanford
Gilbert - Mr. Snyder's school is prosperous -
& I am now or always

Your most affectionate Mother
Purlover

C. A. Andrews

Mr. Lee gave me this gold pen but I
don't think it writes very well do
you?

P.S. I wish I could get you a declamation
but I have positively no means - You
must set about it with decision &
perseverance yourself -

Leeds March 31st 1857

Dear Mother Charles

Strange to say I have
received your letter this morning today!
I was a little surprised that you
would be so careless as not to mention
the receipt of the money the very first
thing as you should always do. You
do not say anything about it - I wished
you to send Eliza's letter to Ella immedi-
ately - if I did not imply as much
it was an oversight - You have now had
it a week! She has been quite unwell
some of the time since I was there - Her
father had quite a bad attack of
spitting blood a week ago last night -
Mrs. Tatten & Ann, Lizzie came home last
Wednesday - Ella expected a hope that
you might bring her the letter - I hope

It will be convenient for you to do
so, if not, do write a line & send it on
tune as you receive this. I suppose
you must send it by the next mail
after its receipt & write her accordingly.

The "trial" must have been a very amuse-
ing affair - Is there nothing said about
the town house incendiary? Uncle Henry
Aunt M. J. - Lizzie & Carrie came down
here from Uncle Ensigns where they
have been making a visit, yesterday
Uncle H. seems much changed - He
says he is determined to live an
upright, Christian life - It is three months
since he adopted family prayer &
has observed other Christian duties - I
never liked him so well as now -
He is kind, courteous, honest-minded,
& seems cheerful, contented & happy -
He says he is happier in his family
than ever before & thinks it is because
he tries to do what is right.

Uncle Henry expects to go to Richmond, just in May - his family -

Some of the drifts are still pretty
deep & the usual ditto, but today has
made quite a change & I am in
hopes the roads will be passable
by the time you come home - in less than
three weeks - if I understand you -
Roseve goes to P. Q. on horseback -
He will return to his Mother the last
of the week - Father's "hired boy" came
tonight - His name is Larrabee & he
worked for Wainwright's place last
year - Mother is quite well and
likes her girl - Belle went out
to Wales, Massachusetts & Wintthrop, "to peddle"
Monday morning - We don't expect him
home till Sat. night - Roseve carried
him to Wintthrop - I suppose Lizzie
Accouchment will take place some
time in May - I am delaying here partly
that I may see her well situated for
such a trying scene, & her husband
absent - I am going to try to get a nurse
some time this week & then I think

150 3/31/1857 *From:* Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: C. H. Howard

RBH-115

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

Leeds March 31st, 1857

Dear Brother Charles

Strange to say I have received yours dated this morning today! I was a little surprised that you should be so careless as not to mention the receipt of the money the very first thing as you should always do, then do not say anything about it.

I wished you to send Otis' letter to Ella immediately, if I did not imply as much, it was an oversight. You have now had it a week! She has been quite unwell some of the time since I was there. Her father had quite a bad attack of spitting blood a week ago last Sat. night. Miss Patton and then Lizzie came here last Wednesday. Ella expressed a hope that you might bring her the letter. I hope it will be convenient for you to do so, if not, do write a line & send it as soon as you receive this. I supposed you would send it by the next mail after its receipt & wrote her accordingly.

The "trial" must have been a very amusing affair. Is there nothing said about the townhouse incendiary? Uncle Henry, Aunt M. J., Lizzie & Carrie came down here from Uncle Ensign's where they have been making a visit, yesterday. Uncle H. seems much changed. He says he is determined to live an upright, Christian life. It is three months since he adopted family prayer & has observed other Christian duties. I never liked him so well as now. He is kind, courteous, honest-minded, & seems cheerful, contented & happy. He says he is happier in his family than ever before & thinks it is because he tries to do what is right. Uncle Henry expects to go to Richmond, Ind. In May & his family.

Some of the drifts are still pretty deep & the mud ditto, but today has made quite a change & I am in hopes the roads will be passable by the time you come home, in less than three weeks, if I understand you. Roscoe goes to P. O. on horseback. He will return to his mother the last of the week. Father's "hired boy" came tonight. His name is Larrabee & he worked for Warren Mower last year. Mother is quite well and likes her girl. Dellie went out to Wales, Monmouth & Winthrop "to peddle" Monday morning. We don't expect him home till Sat. night. Roscoe carried him to Monmouth. I suppose Lizzie's accouchment will take place sometime in May. I am delaying here partly that I may see her well situated for such a trying scene, & her husband absent. I am going to try to get a nurse sometime this week & then I think I shall go to Lewiston or somewhere & to work. I am fairly dissatisfied with myself tonight for this idleness.

Write me tomorrow evening if you please. You may see me before the Term is out, but it is uncertain. We here are all well. I carried Guy down to Capt. Turner's today & to the barn where we have a beautifully marked white & red Calf. I have tapped 12 trees & we have a little sap & a very little "Syrup" for the children. Mrs. Turner (Capt.) remains quite sick, also Sanford Gilbert. Mr. Snyders school is prospering & I am now as always

Your most affectionate Brother
Rowland

C. H. Howard

Mr. Lee gave me this gold pen but I don't think it writes very well do you?

A class "com" is a puerile thing to have an excitement about I should think.

P. S. I wish I could get you a declamation but I have positively no means. You must set about it with decision & perseverance yourself.

Locals Apr. 7th. 1857

Dear Brother Charles

I am very sorry you did not think my letter of sufficient importance to command an immediate reply as I requested. - Lickness is the only excuse for such a delay - & your letter may have miscarried. - If you are sick, Charles, I wish you would let Billy write. Mother needs to know if you don't wish to marry her - I could stay with you now as well as not - Ella received yours & Alice's letter Friday last! She was quite ill yesterday & the day before & I am feeling quite uneasy about her - One of her eyes was badly affected - Deline wrote us Sunday night - from Hallowell - He was "lunatic" I talked of going to Brunswick - Have you seen him? He has a hard time & I pity him - Aunt Martha Jane & Lizzie Strickland are here still - Sick with the neumps - Lizzie & Guy will leave them about the time you get home - Uncle Henry went to Boston Friday from here & is to meet Father at Hallowell tomorrow - Uncle John was Aunt - Trustee - for property left her by Grandfather - They are going to see how much can be saved from the wreck - The R.R. affairs look brighter & I am in hopes now

that they will be able to lay the facts to
Hammington & meet their liabilities as they
accede - I hope so for Father's sake. I had
a letter from Otis tonight - He writes in
his usual good spirits - is much troubled
by flies & heat! Warren Lathrop was made
2^d Lieut. by Pierce & Davis the 3^d of March -
He is now at home awaiting orders - His
Regiment is in Fla. where he expects to
join them soon - I went to Lewisport yesterday
on business for Uncle Henry - got a good
netting - but feel well enough today - Horace
has gone home for good - The Louabee boy
got "limerick" & left in a day - George Lingley
is here and is to work for Father - I blisters
my hands today splitting logs - Otis thinks
I'd better not go to Lewisport & I guess I
shall - Under also they elected in Putnam
today - I anticipate a very close vote - The
color of John Robbins still hangs around the
Republicans there - Did you receive the
money or not? Mother & the rest of the
family are well - Hugh is much obliged
for his catalogue -

Your aff. Mother
Kulander

151 4/7/1857

From: Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: Brother Charles [CH
Howard]

RBH-112

Leeds

Source: Bowdoin

Leeds Apr. 7th, 1857

Dear Brother Charles

I am sorry you did not think my letter of sufficient importance to command an immediate reply as I requested. Sickness is the only excuse for such a delay, or your letter may have miscarried. If you are sick, Charles, I wish you would let Billy write. Mother needn't know it, if you don't wish to worry her. I could stay with you now as well or not.

Ella received yours & Otis' letter Friday last! She was quite ill yesterday & the day before & I am feeling quite uneasy about her. One of her eyes was badly affected.

Dellie wrote us Sunday night from Hallowell. He was "homesick" & talked of going to Brunswick. Have you seen him? He has a hard time & I pity him.

Aunt Martha Jane & Lizzie Strickland are here still - sick with the mumps. Lizzie & Guy will have them about the time you get home. Uncle Henry went to Boston Friday from here & is to meet Father at Hallowell tomorrow. Uncle John was Aunt's Trustee for property left her by Grandfather. They are going to see how much can be saved from the <wreck>. The R. R. Affairs look brighter & I am in hopes now that they will be able to lay the track to Farmington & meet their liabilities as they accrue. I hope so for Father's sake.

I had a letter from Otis tonight.. He writes in his usual good spirits, is much troubled by flies & heat! Warren Lothrop was made 2nd Lieut. by Pierce & Davis the 3rd of March. He is now at home awaiting orders. His Regiment is in Fla where he expects to join them soon.

I went to Lewiston yesterday on business for uncle Henry, got a good wetting, but feel well enough today.

Roscoe has gone home for good. The Larabee boy got "homesick" & left in a day. George Longley is here and is to work for Father. I blistered my hands today splitting logs. Otis thinks I'd better not go to Lewiston & I guess I shan't. Wonder who they elected in Portland today. I anticipate a very close vote. The odor of John Robbins still hangs around the Republicans there. Did you receive the money or not? Mother & the rest of the family are well. Guy is much obliged for his catalogue.

Your aff Brother
Rowland

The consequence was that the father
sent the first instructions from the
love to the son that his son was in
love - But it did not break off the
marriage, though the father of Rogers thought
the story & the letter too good to refuse
I would write more but this time
has come for me to close my letters
I will write you by & by less a haste
I hope God will remain with you
and prosper you in his grace -
Pray for me always & believe me
your very affectionate brother

J. Howard

My love to all -

Fort Brooke Fla.

May 10th / 57

My dear brother,

I had resolved & resolved that my
next letter should be to mother. I wrote you by the
last mail, but after that letter was put in the office I
took out one from you. It surprised me somewhat
but I feel glad in my heart for you. You seem to me
now (pardon the compliment) to have done the one
thing needful to make you a man. I don't think with
you that you were a check upon me & hindered me
from giving myself wholly to Christ. The minister
said to day that it required great care to remain
a Christian after one became one - that the man who
rejected Grace was not so badly off as the man
who fell from Grace. Now don't let me throw any
cold water or be any dampen upon you. It is
a practical matter. You have got your feet into
the right, the narrow path, stick to it & walk in
it. I haven't yet got that frame of mind, but I can
bid you God speed. I know Mother must be

happy at this change. I will cheerfully comply
with your suggestions as to myself. I will
try to strengthen my faith by the help of
the Holy Spirit. I do not neglect to read the
Bible, though I confess I give it too little time &
too little thought. A little boy has come in to
see me - Guy McKinstry, two yrs old, the, of course
makes me think of Guy. I should like to be
journeying northward now, but I fear they
will keep me here till everything connected
with this campaign has been settled up.
But it is better to complete what you under-
take, than to leave it half done. I mean
write to Warren Lottrop to answer some
important practical questions he asked
me in a letter I received from him
yesterday evening. After Mr Snyder
leaves Inds, who will replace him?

What was the matter with her (that was
Martha J. Brewster?) Write me about Lizzie
how she seems, if restless, unhappy or contented

I think of taking a trip starting tomorrow night
in the Steamer Ranger to Santa Rosa &
Fort Myers, and before I get back I may
go to Key West & the posts on the Eastern
Coast. I think the trip will stir my blood
up a little & be beneficial. I got quite intimate
with a lawyer Mr West from Key West & I hope
some duty may take me down there I
would like to visit him & his family. I also
know Judge King very well, but he being
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He wrote two letters one to his father in
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and by some inadvertence directed the lady's
letter to his father & his father's to the lady -

153 5/10/1857 *From:* O. O. Howard

To: Dear brother [RB
Howard]

RBH-116

Fort Brooke Fla

Source: Bowdoin

Fort Brooke Fla
May 10th '57

My dear brother,

I had resolved & re-resolved that my next letter should be to mother. I wrote you by the last mail but after that letter was put in the office I took out one from you. It surprised me somewhat but I feel glad in my heart for you. You seem to me now (pardon the compliment) to have done the one thing needful to make you a man. I don't think with you that you were a check upon me & hindered me from giving myself wholly to Christ. The minister said today that it required great care to remain a Christian after one became one. That the man who rejected Grace was not so badly off as the man who fell from Grace. Now don't let me throw any cold water or be any damper upon you. It is a practical matter. You have got your feet into the right, the narrow path, stick to it & walk on it. I haven't yet got that frame of mind, but I can bid you God speed. I know mother must be happy at this change.

I will cheerfully comply with your suggestion as to myself. I will try to strengthen my Faith by the help of the Holy Spirit. I do not neglect to read the Bible, though I confess I give it too little time & too little thought.

A little boy has come in to see me - Guy McKinstry, two yrs old. He, of course, makes me think of Guy. I should like to be journeying northward now, but I fear they will keep me here till everything connected with this campaign has been settled up. But it is better to complete what you undertake, than to leave it half done. I have written to Warren Lothrop to answer some important practical questions he asked me in a letter I received from him yesterday evening. After Mr. Snyder leaves Leeds, who will replace him?

What was the matter with her (that was Martha J. Brewster?) Write me about Lizzie, how she seems, if restless & unhappy or contented. I think of taking a trip starting tomorrow night in the Steamer Ranger to Ponta Bassa & Fort Myers, and before I get back I may go to Key West & the Posts on the Eastern coast. I think the trip will stir my blood up a little & be beneficial. I got quite intimate with a lawyer Mr. Hart from Key West & I hope some duty may take me down there. I would like to visit him & his family. I also know Judge King very well, but he being a bachelor has no family of his own.

I thought it was funny you were writing to me in the third person, but was taking it all to myself till I got over on the second page of the cross writing. This reminded me of a case that I heard of, of a young officer who was recently married to a lady in Ohio - Lieut. Myers. He wrote two letters one to his father in Pennsylvania & the other to his lady in Ohio, and by some inadvertence directed the lady's letter to his father & his father's to the lady. The consequence was that the father had the first intimations from this lone letter that his son was in love. But it didn't break off the match, though the father of Myers thought the story & letter too good to keep.

I would write more but the time has come for me to close my letter. I will write you by & by less in haste. I hope God will remain with you and prosper you in his Grace. Pray for me always & believe me

You're very affectionate brother
OO Howard

My love to all.