

is a serious deprivation - I believe
I never knew what it was to "live
with the Spirit" till lately, indeed.
I have felt for four or five weeks very
great peace in believing & joy in the
holy Ghost. From some indications
that my health will fail me when
young, I am anxious to do all I can
while my strength is good. - O how I shall
love the Parson duties. I don't anticipate
so much pleasure from preaching, which
pleasures me very much - but to go from
house to house & talk & pray with the people
& those people - "my own people" has something
in it some times more delightful than I
deserve. - O may God never take his holy
Spirit from me - "then shall I teach
travelling reports thy ways" - Sam Adams is
here - He is another new born babe in
Christ. Our vacation comes about
the 23rd Nov. - I am in hopes to be
home a few days & to converse with some
about their souls - Mother will find me
employed in the garden. My vacation is
so short that Ella would like to spend
it all with me - Mother must visit
me if she would like to have her -
I will write to Mother before long -

Stoughton Apr. 23. 1858
My dear Charles
As I suppose your term closed
I thought you would be at home at this
time & will spend the half hour before
writing you. I suppose you recollect
my writing you in this closing season of the term as not
yet time to write to me. & there may have
been something in my letter that you did
not like. I would not have you think that I
am a fault-finder - she has much temptation &
often yields but she is often penitential & tries to
be humble & faithful. O may God make her
righteous. That is my prayer. Whether she is happy
or not. This is also my prayer for your mother -
your young lady friend. O if she is not - O that
she would come to the feet of Jesus - be free
of self and the world & live for Christ.
We have been hoping for Anna's health - she
is that way - as well as I could, and we have
tried to pray - but she has not yet yielded. I
think Capt. Totten has been under conviction
for some time. he allows Mr. Fisher to pray with
him & converses with him freely. I am praying
that every day may be the day of his new birth &
his soul's escape. He has been a burden on my
heart before for months. It is now

five months that I concluded to stop writing
and my pray. with Ella & Mrs. Patten - Victoria
Reed has found Jesus - It seemed as if the
effect of exceedingly faithful enumeration with
her - at the close of which she calmly said - "I
will go" - I wrote her as well as I could of the
blessed "Way, Truth & Light" - Albert Rice has
written me of his new found hope - I wrote
Louisa last week - When I saw that in the paper
about George - I sat down & wrote - How is it
with Emma? & I hope this in George's case
is the genuine work - How often has he abused
the name of Christ - but "I say unto the many-
times seven" - O will not Father & Roland
come? They are now surrounded by a wall
of prayers! Tell Legathia - she must be decided
for herself - that she will serve God - must pray
& read a short portion of Scripture each day - do
her duty - & she will have peace & Roland will
not long resist - The gentleman in whose
house we have had a Week's evening prayer
meeting for some time - arose and asked Chris-
tians to pray for him in a meeting this morn-
ing - He is Old's age - & has always been a Universalist
at heart - his wife (Mrs. Gerard) is a
Christian - If you have a chance I wish you to com-
mune spiritually with Salmon Wing - I have great
hopes that his Universalist principles are

not fixed & if they are God I can shake them
& you may be the instrument in his hands - I hope
you will see William Lingley and lead him
into deeper experience of Christ's love - I suppose
the traveling is very bad - but if you see John -
give him my love & bid him God speed - O that
he would pray much - I must try to write him -
If he does his duty God may make him an
instrument of much good in Leeds - but God
don't work with one who has given up a half
his heart to His service - but I pity John -
his temptations are sore - Uncle is much ob-
rude in such a state & his wife - whom he loves so much -
indifferent - O it is hard to serve God in such
circumstances - but "My grace is sufficient for
thee" - If you see any members of the Church
you will have a an opportunity of giving a "cup
of cold water" - it may be - If God's Spirit does
visit Leeds this summer - I shall look for
S. B. Lathrop & Dr. Loring to "come" - Write me about
Mrs. Loring if you see her - Summer bell -
5th Feb. My throat became sore last Sat;
and after my Sunday's labors I was
not able to do much till yesterday -
Praxton brought me over some medicine
from home that helped me - and I can
speak now but cannot sing yet - This

161 4/23/1858 *From:* RBH [RB Howard]

To: Dear Bro. Charles [CH Howard]

RBH-124

Bangor

Source: Bowdoin

Bangor, Apr. 23, 1858

Dear Bro. Charles

As I suppose your Term closed Sunday, I thought you would be at home at this time & I will spend the half hour before Dinner in writing you. I suppose you were so busy in the closing business of the Term as not to get time to write to me, & there may have been something in my letter that you did not like.

I would not have you think that I think Ella faultless. She has much temptation & often yields, but she is often penitent & tries to be humble & faithful. O may God make her right - that is my prayer whether she is happy or not. This is also my prayer for you & Mother, & your young lady friend. O, if she is not, O that she would come, come to the feet of Jesus, be forgetful of self and the world & live for Christ's sake.

We have been hoping for Anna Hattie. She has shed many tears & resumed seeking, & I make her as well as I could, and we have tried to pray, but she has not yet yielded. I think Capt. Patten has been under conviction for months - he allows Mr Fiske to pray with him & converses with him freely. I am praying that every day may be the day of his new birth & he will come. He has been a burden on my heart before God for months. It is now five months that I concluded to stop writing and only pray with Ella & Mrs Patten.

Victoria Reed has found Jesus. It seemed to be the effect of exceedingly faithful conversation with Ella at the close of which she calmly said - "I will go". I write her as well as I could of the blessed "Way, truth & light." Albert Rice has written me of his new found hope. I wrote Louisa last week. When I saw that in the paper about George, I sat down & wrote. How is it with Emma? O I hope this in George's case is the genuine mark. How often has he abused the name of Christ, but "I say such the seventy times seven.

O will not Father & Roland come? They are now surrounded by a wall of prayers! Tell Cynthia - she must be decided for herself that she will serve God, must pray & read a short portion of Scripture each day. Do her duty & she will have peace & Roland will not long resist.

The gentleman in whose house we have had a Wed's Evening prayer meeting for some time, arose and asked Christians to pray for him in a meeting this morning. He is Otis' age & has always been a Universalist - brought up so. His wife (Mrs Gerard) is a Christian. If you have a chance I wish you to come here privately with Salmon Wing. I have great hopes that his Universalist principles are not fixed & if they are God can shake them & you may be the instrument in his hands. I hope you will see William Langley and lead him into deeper experience of Christ's love.

I suppose the traveling is very bad, but if you see John, give him my love & bid him God speed. O that he would pray much. I must try to write him. If he does his duty God may make him an instrument of much good in Leeds, but God don't work with one who has given only a half his heart to His Service, but I pity John, his temptations are sure. Uncle is worldly & Anne in such a state & his wife, whom he loves so much indifferent. O it is hard to serve God in such circumstances, but "my grace is sufficient for thee". If you see any numbers of the Church you will have an opportunity of giving a "cup of cold water", it may be. If Gods Spirit does visit Leeds this Summer, I shall look for L. L. Lathrop & Dr. Loring to "come". Write me about Mrs Loring if you see her.

Dinner bell - 5 ½ P.M.

My throat became sore last Sat. and after my Sunday's labors I was not able to do much till yesterday. Bracton brought me over some medicine from home that helped me, and I can speak now but cannot sing yet. This is a serious deprivation. I believe I never knew what it was to "sing with the Spirit" till lately. Indeed I have felt for four or five weeks some great peace in believing & joy in the holy Ghost. From some indication that my health will fail me when young I am anxious to do all I can while my strength is good.

O how I shall love the Pastor's duties. I don't anticipate so much pleasure from preaching, which exhausts me very much, but to go from house to house & talk & pray with the people & those people - "my own people" has something in it ten times more delightful than I deserve. O may God never take his holy Spirt from me - "then shall I teach transgressors thy ways".

Sam Adams is here. He is another new born babe in Christ.

Our vacation comes about the 23d Prox. I am in hopes to be at home a few days & to converse with you about their souls. Mother will find me useful in the Garden. My vacation is so short that Ella would like to spend it all with me. Mother must write me if she would like to have her. I will write to Mother before long.

I have many more things to say & I want you to write me about the state of feeling in College & the exhibition &c, but I have an essay to write before tomorrow on the Miracles and I must be about it.

Love to Father & Mother. Can't you go up & see Dellie & Anne & talk with him. Otis has not written. I wrote him yesterday.

Your aff bro
RBH

over due - & the 19.00 that they
owe me in Harpswell may
not come for some time - I hope
Father can let me have \$30.00 -
I will need that for my bare
wool & book bills - If inconvenient
for him to send so much - If
he will do what he can I
shall feel very grateful - I
am in hopes to earn more next
year - They don't like to have
the students preach the middle
year much - I can write
no more tonight - I hope
your winter as here will
benefit your health - & you
will benefit Mother & Nellie
& others & then I will feel
that it is well spent -

I am studying Theology &
writing Essays &c - Our Sun-
day meetings are excellent -
this year & I am expecting soon
to see a gracious outpouring of

Remember me kindly to Nettie when you write -
 What is the chance of your getting all news about Fred & Mother - or your letter to Laura Dec. 16. 1858 [38]

Your good long letter was very welcome - You didn't mention your health. How is it? Sorry to hear that about Nettie - Is she quite recovered? Ella will write her - I guess - If Boardman's "Heigher Life" does not increase your trust - your faith in the Lord Jesus - nor only as your justifier but your Sanctifier - it will not accomplish what I think that, by the grace of God, it has done for Ella & ^{for me} I have tried to follow it to you & Mother & Nellie by my prayers - O that God would do it for you, befriends - He alone can - & if you perfectly submit to Him I do believe He will - Have you read Prof Upham's "Interior Life"?

to write when you write -
 What is the
 substance
 of your
 ill news
 about these
 sisters - or
 your wife
 her very
 mention your
 sorry to hear
 Is the you
 write her -
 "Heigher Life
 your trust -
 Lord Jesus -
 justifies &
 it will not

I am very much pleased
with it. It is an ⁱⁿ amplification
of the news in Boardman's
book. O that we might
be led to see the goodness
of God even in our afflictions &
chastisements. We must give
up the world - Ambition & all
inordinate desire must be
crushed in our backs &
Lives & the glory of God
made everything to us.
Then will our "peace be like
a river" & in no other way
can we be free-holy-happy.
I have been to Mrs Allen's
funeral this P.M. & have
written Mrs Farmer about
it. She gave evidence of
belonging to Christ's flock
on Earth & I have not
much doubt that She is
now with Him in glory -

you are sure of your? no look?
Please answer this
question by the next letter - we must hear of it -
my eyes seem very weak -

Lesa Collier is not expected
to live - She may go at any
time - May God bless these
providences to Mrs Farmer & her
family - I have not heard from
Otis since I came to Bangor!
& I think some of you at home
might write weekly at least
this winter - Please to send
“Higher Life” to Mrs Farmer &
to Laura, John, & Helen - Ella
is well & happy - Mr. Tilden has
been having a lung fever - & will
hardly preach much this winter -
My health is very good. As
soon as my anxiety passed away
the “humbler” I wrote you of, kept
me - I have had a stye on my
eye which kept me from
stitching awhile - My little P.S.
is prospering - I hope Mother
& Nellie will write to us -

I have got to have some
money - my board is now due.

163 12/16/1858 *From:* Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: Dear Brother
[CH Howard]

RBH-125

Bangor

Source: Bowdoin

Bangor Dec 16 1858

Dear Brother

Your good long letter was very welcome. You didn't mention your health. How is it? Sorry to hear that about Nettie. Is she quite recovered? Ella will write her, I guess. If Boardman's "Higher Life" does not increase your trust, your faith in the Lord Jesus, not only as your justifier but your Sanctifier, it will not accomplish what I think that, by the grace of God, it has done for Ella & me. I have tried to follow it to you & Mother & Dellie by my prayers. O that God would do it for you, Charles. He alone can & if you perfectly submit to Him I do believe He will.

Have you read Prof Upham's "Tutorial". I am very much pleased with it. It is an amplification of the views in Boardman's book. O that we might be led to see the goodness of God even in our afflictions & chastisements. We must give up the world, ambition & all inordinate desire must be crushed in our bodies & Souls & the glory of God made everything to us. Then will our "peace be like a river" & in no other way can we be free, holy, happy.

I have been to Mrs Alden's funeral this PM & have written Mrs Turner about it. She gave Evidence of belonging to Christ's flock on Earth & I have not much doubt that she is now with Him in Glory. Susan Collier is not expected to live. She may go at any time. May God bless these providences to Mrs Turner & her family.

I have not heard from Otis since I came to Bangor! & I think some of you at home might write weekly at least this winter. Please to lend "Higher Life" to Mrs Turner & to Laura, John, & Helen. Ella is well & happy. Mr Fiske has been having a lung fever & will hardly preach much this winter. My health is very good. As soon as my anxiety passed away the "<tremble>" I told you of left me. I have had a sty on my eye which kept me from study awhile. My little S.S. is prospering. I hope Mother & Dellie will write to me.

I have got to have some money. My board is now due - over due & the 19.00 that they owe me in Harpswell may not come for some time. I hope Father can let me have \$30.00. I will need that for my board, wood & book bills. If inconvenient for him to send so much, if he will do what he can I shall feel very grateful. I am in hopes to earn more next year. They don't like to have the Students preach the middle year much.

I can write no more tonight. I hope your winter at home will benefit your health & you will benefit Mother & Dellie & others & then I will feel that it is well spent.

I am studying Theology & writing essays &c. Our Sun. prayer meetings are excellent this year & I am expecting soon to see a gracious outpouring of God's Spirit.

Love to Father, Dellie & Mother.

Your aff Brother
Rowland

Remember me kindly to Nettie when you write. What is the substance of your ill news about Fred Stevens as you told <Bufrocken>. Is your German lamp in Coll. perfectly good? No leak? Do you want it next term? Please to answer these questions by the next letter & one more. Can I have it? My eyes seem very weak.

West Point N.Y.
January 31st 1863

My dear brother,

I begin to feel unusually anxious
on your account. I have not heard a word since the last
letter, which found you shut up with a severe attack
of influenza. I do hope you are well and have been
able to visit Harpwell and return to your studies.
We have all had the influenza. I have kept on speaking
reading, & sewing lessons, however. Guy has got almost
over his cold, but Grace & Lizzie are almost sick. The
Grace has cried night lately with her teeth. We have a
young St. who married Mrs. Brewster's daughter. Mr. Reed
very low with the heart disease. I sat up with him
on Thursday night and have tried to see him & pray
with him. His physician has not allowed anybody to
see him very often - afraid to excite him. No matter how
much you talk about his poor body it won't hurt him,
but it is feared to say anything to him of his soul - but
I told him of his danger & he answered readily - says he has been
a moral man, but a great sinner, fears a death-bed is not the
right place to become a Christian - tries to believe in Jesus as his own
personal Saviour. He has only been married 5 months, has the
disease of the heart - and can neither sit up, nor lie down -
quite a revival has taken place at the Falls - some thirty
I should think have a hope of sins forgiven. Yesterday &
last night, we had an Episcopal minister, who

preached our own - the truth. He went down with me
and discussed to the soldiers in an affectionate, lively
& beautiful manner - Anybody would have taken him
to have been a learned Methodist Minister to have heard
him last night. Oh! that they all would be like him.
Then the belief in the necessity of consecration-ordination
would be of little practical importance to objectors.

It seems to be the theory that a Special Grace is
imparted at the time of the laying on of hands
of the Bishops to them who are called to the
ministry. But more particularly, that God has
established the three Orders in his Church, and that the
manner of the appointment is a matter of history.
It is asked:- Where are you going to stop? Will you
allow any man to take upon himself the power to administer
the Sacraments? Or is there a form established by our Lord,
and if so what is that form? The question is answered by the
Bible & history - I ask has God denied his Grace to other unordained
(in the sense assumed) men of God? No, not to them, nor to individuals,
but that does not make them wholly right, nor prevent them from
belonging to a sect - a secession from the visible Church that
has come down to us from ancient times? Why not go to
Romanism then - "Rome has superseded more than the sects
have subtracted". &c - Our vessel is reported amongst the
arrivals - Aunt is pretty bad. She thinks of trying the plaster. Grace calls
your book of hymns by the name "Honey honey butter". M. which Guy says
"under Rowland's laugh right out" it means "Johnny Harmer
Book". - Lizzie doesn't love Thomas you are well - Love from both to
Ellie - Write if able - If we can somehow drop a line for you -
I still love my blessed Saviour - I ask his blessing upon you - off - your brother
J. P. P.

164 1/31/1859 *From:* OO Howard

To: My dear brother [RB
Howard]

RBH-126

West Point, N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

West Point, N.Y.
January 31st 1859

My dear brother,

I begin to feel unusually anxious on your account. I haven't heard a word since the last letter, which found you shut up with a severe attack of influenza. I do hope you are well and have been able to visit Harpswell and return to your studies. We have all had the influenza. I have kept on speaking, reading, & hearing lessons, however. Guy has got almost over his cold, but Grace & Lizzie are almost sick. She, Grace, has cried nights lately with her teeth. We have a young Lt who married Mrs Berard's daughter. Mr Reed very low with the heart disease. I sat up with him on Thursday night and have tried to see him & pray with him. His physician has not allowed anybody to see him very often - afraid to excite him. No matter how much you talk about his poor body, it won't hurt him, but it is feared to say ought, to him of his soul, but I told him of his danger & he conversed readily - says he has been a moral man, but a great sinner, fears a death-bed is not the right place to become a Christian - tries to believe in Jesus as his own personal Saviour. He has only been married 5 months, has the disease of the heart, and can neither sit up, nor lie down.

Quite a revival has taken place at the Falls - some thirty I should think have a hope of sins forgiven. Yesterday & last night, we had an Episcopal minister, who preached out & out the truth. He went down with me and discoursed to the soldiers in an affectionate, direct & beautiful manner. Anybody would have taken him to have been a learned Methodist minister to have heard him last night. Oh! That they all would do like him, then the belief in the necessity of successive ordination would be of little practical importance to objectors.

It seems to be the theory that a special Grace is imparted at the time of the laying on of hands of the Bishops to them who are called to the ministry. But more particularly that God has established the three orders in his church, and that the manner of the appointment is a matter of History. It is asked: where are you going to stop? Will you allow any man to take upon himself the power to administer the Sacraments? Or is there a form established by our Lord, and if so what is that form? The question is answered by the Bible & history. I ask has God denied his Grace to other unordained (in the sense assumed) men of God. "No not to them, nor to individuals but that don't make them wholly right, nor prevents them from belonging to a sect, a schism from the visible church that has come down to us from ancient times." Why not go to Romanism then - "Rome has superadded more than the sects have subtracted." &c

Our vessel is reported amongst the arrivals - Aunt is pretty bad. She thinks of trying the plaster. Grace calls your book of hieroglyphics, the "hony hony bute", at which Guy says "Uncle Rowland will laugh right out" it means "Johnny Hower Book". Lizzie sends love & hopes you are well. Love from both to Ella. Write if able & if not let somebody drop a line for you. I still love my blessed Saviour, & ask his blessing upon you.

Aff your brother
OO Howard

14. Voluntary Labor -

Recreation -

Economy -

Life of a moment is a
serious thing.

V. Divers. Coll. & Privat
Obedience.

2. Dedications of Intellectual
Labor -

1. Mathematics

2. Laboratory aids in imagery
of the Nat. Hist.

3. Metaphysics aids in depicting
Nat. Hist. with laws -

Object to describe the

Series -

1. Statistics & Comp. -

2. To Observe with eyes -

3. To see can tell eyes - plant as
physics in the earth.

Indian guide details what
he knows.

2. Observe with microscope -

3. Necessary to use dissecting
instrument.

4. To be able to become acquainted
with all the objects within
the range of our walks.

Don't mistake the law
of names for a science
Impulse -

Prof. Dana at Washington
Some names wanted -

Beginning early in College Course
Math & Nat. Hist. make
men abstracted -

1. To be more observant.

2. To gain more particulars.

3. To be independent. Houghton -

4. To be able to take a
description



Waukegan Feb. 14. 1859
My dear Mother

As the time draws
near for the college "hats" my
heart goes out in longing &
prayer for Bendin - for you
for Christians & sinners there.
O that the good God would
open the blind eyes & warm
the cold hearts & that a time
of refreshing from on high
might come. Take some
time - Charles & write me
as to the religious state of
the college - I was a good
deal disappointed that I did
not see Egbert while I
was there - but you know
how I was hurried when
in Prussia. My health
seems restored & all
my affairs seem prosper-
ous.

The religious interest in
the City seems to be in-
creasing - Mrs. Stevens
Mother tells me that she
is longing for the Coll.
Fast. Do you know
anything of him?

I read the last "Telegraph"
& the acct of the Examination.
Nettie must feel relieved
now that it is over - Give
her my love - I thought
of sending this by Geo.
Webster but couldn't
yet - it done

Some one will write
to Fuller for religious
intelligence & I wish
you to send me as
much additional as
you can.

Perhaps I will
drop a line to Prof
Ay. too -

My time is all engaged
this evening & I must
stop - but I hope you
will give this matter very
serious attention as it
is very important - for the
interest of Christ's Cause
to awaken an interest
in Christians here in
the College -

If you want many
& earnest prayers - send
a full & detailed acct.

Yours Affly
R. B. Stewart

Remember me to Stevens
when you see him

165 2/15/1859 *From:* R. B. Howard

To: My dear Brother [CH
Howard]

RBH-127

Bangor

Source: Bowdoin

Bangor, Feb 15, 1859

My dear Brother

As the time draws near for the College "Fast", my heart goes out in longing & prayer for Bowdoin, for you, for Christians & Sinners there. O that the good God would open the blind eyes & warm the cold hearts & that a time of reflecting from on high might come. Take some time, Charles & write me as to the religious state of the College. I was a good deal disappointed that I did not see Egbert while I was there, but you know how I was hurried when in Bruns. My health seems restored & all my affairs seem prosperous.

The religious interest in the City seems to be increasing. Fred <Stearns> Mother tells me that she is longing for the Coll. Fast. Do you know anything of him?

I read the last "Telegraph" & the acct of the Examination. Nettie must feel relieved now that it is over. Give her my love. I thought of sending this by Geo. Webster, but couldn't get it done. Some one will write to Fuller for religious intelligence & I wish you to send me as much additional as you can.

Perhaps I will drop a line to Prof Smyth too.

My time is all engaged this Evening & I must stop, but I hope you will give this matter very serious attention as it is very important for the interest of Christ's cause to awaken an interest in Christians here in the College.

If you want many & Earnest prayers, send a full & detailed acct.

Your Aff Bro
R. B. Howard

Remember me to <Stevens> when you see him.

IV Voluntary Labor
Recreation
Economy
Loss of a moment is a serious thing.

V Should Coll do private Cabinets

Qualifications of Naturalist
1. Language
Instructors must know names
2. Mathematics
3. Chemistry aids for mineralogy & other Nat. Hist
4. Metaphysics aids in defining Met. & Med. <with terms>

Object to discipline the senses

1 Students taught to observe with eye
He can tell every plant as passes in the Cars

Indian guide detects what he <takes>

2. Observe with microscope
Necessary to use dissecting <> with all the objects within the range of our walks.

Don't mistake the learning names for a science linguist

Prof Dana at Washington some names wanted

Begin early in College Course

Math & Metap make man abstracted

1. To be more observant

2. To gain more from teachers

III Independent thought

Illustrate by taking a plant & looking for its description

Others down the neck. You
knew my excursion to Crossland
prevented that.

I told Mr Bishop that I would
call & fully intended to but
you know why I did not.

Give my love to your Mother,
Mary & Louisa. Ella enjoyed
her visit exceedingly. Her sister
came to Ipsham for her. Wednesday
forenoon.

Please to write me about
your meetings. I hope that
matter of difference about Mr.
Ellsworth will be mentioned
again in Harpswell.

Is Paul coming down here
this fall? Albion thinks so.

I suppose you saw the death
of my Aunt, Mrs Lee, in the
Traveller. I can only say
that I rejoice that God has
taken her home. Her cancer caused
her great suffering, but Jesus was
with her to the last. Yours most truly
R. P. Johnson

1859
Patten Aug. 17. 1859.

Dear Bro.

You will hope to hear from
your friends when ^{you} see this but
I have not been into the "Lanes"
yet. Albion came out to meeting
Sunday & said that they were
all well. Hept Capt Randall's
foot. & that does not keep him
from working. I expect to go
in there tomorrow & spend the
Sabbath - & will write again
when I come out.

I was so tired riding
in the stage as I expected to
be. I spent one day at
Mattawamkeag instead of
Bangor where I only spent
a night.

I board with a good
sister. Mrs. Keagles. She is not
a professed religionist. Dr. Rogers
is the only male member of

the Church in the Village
& there is only one other
in the town. but there are
a no^r of Methodist & a
few Baptist brethren. The
Audience was pretty large
& attentive on the Sabbath =
but the minds of the people
are Universalists & all the
young people irreligious. It
is a hard field but, with
Gods help, sent in answer
to prayer. (and you must pray)
I will do some good = We
had a full prayer meeting
Sunday Evening, & I have
appointed another for this
(Wed.) Evening. I hope the
two Methodist brethren
will come in & help me.
but, most of all, that Jesus
will manifest himself there.

Albin seemed pleased as

a child to see me & told
me that I "must preach
somewhere since he had walked
so far" =

Patten is a fine looking, farm-
ing town & the houses look
thrifty = In speaking, calls
I have found many people
evidences of the Saviours love:
in hearts bowed down in
poverty & affliction - & alas.
many deny him entirely -
& are even opposed to the
Gospel. After calling on one
man of wealth & intelligence
& suffering him to rebuke
himself of his infidelity - I
could not help being moved
to tears = I do believe that it
drew me nearer to my Saviours
side:

I want you or Mary to house
me to Mrs Paul Curtis - I should
have called there but for Mr
Lands = I was sorry too not
to have seen Paul Randall &

166 8/17/1859 *From:* R. B. Howard

To: Dear Bro [Unk]

RBH-128

Patten

Source: Bowdoin

Patten Aug 17, 1859 [Wednesday]

Dear Bro

You will hope to hear from your friends when you see this, but I have not been into the "Falls" yet. Albion came out to meeting Sunday & said that they were all well, except Capt Randall's foot & that does not keep him from working. I expect to go in there tomorrow & spend the Sabbath, & will write again when I come out.

I wasn't so tired riding in the Stage as I expected to be. I spent one day at Mattawamkeag instead of Bangor where I only spent a night.

I board with a good Sister Mrs Haynes. Mr H is now a professor of religion. Dr Rogers is the only male member of the church in the village & there is only one other in the town, but there are a no of Methodist & a few Baptist brethren. The Audience was pretty large & attentive on the Sabbath, but two thirds of the people are Universalists & all the young people irreligious. It is a hard field but, with Gods help, sent in answer to prayer (and you must pray) I will do some good. We had a full prayer meeting Sunday Evening & I have appointed another for this (Weds) Evening. I hope the two Methodist brethren will come in & help me, but, most of all, that Jesus will manifest himself there.

Albion seemed pleased as a child to see me & told me that I "must preach smart, since he had walked so far".

Patten is a fine looking farming town & the houses look thrifty. In making calls I have found many blessed evidences of the Saviours love in hearts boned down in poverty & affliction & alas many deny Him entirely & are even opposed to the Gospel. After calling on one man of wealth & intelligence & suffering him to unbosom himself of his infidelity, I could not help being moved to tears. I do believe that it drove me nearer to my Saviours side.

I want you or Mary to excuse me to Mrs Paul Curtis. I should have called there but for Mr Sands. I was sorry too, not to have seen Paul Randall & others during the week. You know my excursion to Orrs Island prevented that.

I told Mrs Bishop that I would call & fully intended to, but you know why I did not.

Give my love to your Mother, Mary & Louisa. Ella enjoyed her visit exceedingly. Her sister came to Topsham for her Wednesday forenoon.

Please to write me about your meetings. I hope that matter of difference about Mr Ellsworth won't be mentioned again in Harpswell.

Is Paul coming down here this fall? Albion thinks so.

I suppose you saw the death of my Aunt, Mrs Lee, in the Evangelist. [Ann Elizabeth (Otis) Lee died 3 Aug 1859 in Brooklyn, NY.] I can only say that I rejoice that God has taken her home. Her cancer caused her great suffering, but Jesus was with her to the last.

Yours most truly
R.B. Howard

evil speakings - enticements to drink &c.

But I know that if the Lord has begun a good work he will carry it on to completion; still I can but think of the responsibility - he devolves on his followers to expectate with him. You know I suppose, I have fully made up my mind to leave the army this fall & go to the Seminary.

I have some misgivings, when I look anywhere but to God for strength & direction. I do not say much to you about it, because I thought you believed I ought to keep my own counsel from what you said to me. Mr Gray's affairs have rather presented hardship & poverty as the essential lot of the Minister of Christ - but I do not go to the Ministry of Christ for worldly goods. I think God constrains me to give myself wholly to the Ministry of the Word. If I am self-deceived, may the Spirit & the Word enlighten me before it is too late. We are all very well

I hope my precious sister is well & happy - I wish the Minister's wife a well
just? Love from Lizzie.
Alice Susan &
Mr. & Mrs. Hillman -
off yr brother
C. Howard

West Point N.Y.

March 29. 1861

My dear Brother,

I suppose you have as many calls on your time & attention as I do. I can understand why I do not write oftener from your personal experience. I have leisure hours but I think, well, there is my Hebrew lesson I ought to get, or a discourse I ought to write. I feel reluctant to urge my labors as an excuse for anything, ^{negligence} for I do not work hard at anything. I have not written you since Mr Gray's death. His poor wife & daughter are quite broken-hearted. They have scarcely anything of this world's goods, and the future looks rather gloomy to Miss Grinnin. We (Lizzie & I) visit them very frequently. Lizzie has

helped her by taking some of her
bright clothes at her valuation. Their
friends on the post there we sent
them a purse of over a hundred dollars.
Dr Gray aroused from his pious stupor
before he died at Syracuse. He expressed
himself ready to go. He said: God is better
for me than life. When asked for
the ground of his confidence, he said:
his hope was in Christ, a foundation
that could not be shaken. His remains
arrived here a week ago last Saturday
& the funeral was the next day.
I supplied Mr Gray's pulpit, while
he was sick. Sometimes once & sometimes
twice a Sunday. Last Sunday I went
down again. A Clergyman from
Cornwall was here at the funeral.
He will come next Sunday to receive
some new members into the Church.
Do you know any young man who
would like to come here, at \$5.00, per year
with a passage inclusive.

The Church proper numbers between 70
& 80 members. I wish they could have
a minister, if they do not, the Church
will go down. The Methodists have
taken in, I understand, a hundred members.
Many of them are excellent men.
When you preached at the place of my
Sunday school - I noticed some ten or
eleven, who were not sincere Christians
when you were here, who give evidence
of a right mind now. I do not think
I put great confidence in the instruments.
I endeavor to rely wholly on the Lord to
give the increase. To use the utmost of
my influence I could not make a man
much better, but the Lord can pluck
men from the burning. I do not feel
like rejoicing over the work here as I might
have anticipated beforehand, for it seems
as if the whole pack of evil influences
was at work to turn back the young
disciples into their old ways. Church
divisions - want of means. Evil surmises

167 3/29/1861 *From:* O. O. Howard

To: My dear Brother [RB
Howard]

RBH-129

West Point, N.Y.

Source: Bowdoin

West Point, N.Y.
March 29, 1861

My dear Brother,

I suppose you have as many calls on your time & attention as I do & can understand why I do not write oftener from yr personal experience. I have leisure hours but I think well, there is my Hebrew lesson I ought to get, or a discourse I ought to write. I feel reluctant to urge my labors as an excuse for any negligence for I do not work hard at anything.

I have'nt written you since Mr Gray's death. His poor wife & daughter are quite broken hearted. They have scarcely anything of this world's goods, and the future look rather gloomy to Miss Jeannie. We (Lizzie & I) visit them very frequently. Lizzie has helped her by taking some of her bright clothes at her valuation. Their friends on the post thru me sent them a purse of over a hundred dollars. Dr Gray aroused from his four day's stupor before he died at Syracuse. He expressed himself ready to go. He said "God is better for me than life." & when asked for the ground of his confidence, He said: his hope was in Christ, a foundation that could not be shaken. His remains arrived here a week ago last Saturday & the funeral was the next day. I supplied Mr Gray's pulpit, while he was sick, sometimes once & sometimes twice a Sunday. Last Sunday I went down again.

A clergyman from Cornwall was here at the funeral. He will come next Sunday to receive some new members into the Church.

Do you know any young man who would like to come here at \$500 per year with a parsonage inclusive. The Church proper numbers between 70 - 80 members. I wish they could have a minister, if they do not, the Church will do down. The Methodists have taken in, I understand, a hundred members. Many of them are excellent men.

When you preached at the place of my Sunday School, I noticed some ten or eleven, who were not sincere Christians when you were here, who give evidence of a right mind now. I do not think I put great confidence in the instruments. I endeavor to rely wholly on the Lord to give the increase. To use the utmost of my influence I could not make a man much better, but the Lord can pluck men from the burning. I do not feel like rejoicing over the work here as I might have anticipated before hand, for it seems as if the whole pack of evil influences was at work to turn back the young disciples into their old ways. Church divisions - want of means - Evil surmises - evil speakings - enticements to drink &c.

But I know that if the Lord has begun a good work he will carry it on to completion. Still I can but think of the responsibility he devolves on his followers to cooperate with him. You know I suppose, I have fully made up my mind to leave the army this fall & go to the Seminary. I have some misgivings, when I look anywhere but to God for strength & direction. I do not say much to you about it, because I thought you believed I ought to keep my own counsel from what you said to me.

Mr Gray's affairs have rather presented hardship & poverty as the essential lot of the minister of Christ, but I do not go to the ministry of Christ for worldly goods. I think God constrains me to give myself wholly to the ministry of the Word. If I am self deceived, may the Spirit & the Word enlighten me before it is too late.

We are all very well. I hope my precious sister is well & happy. Is the minister's wife a bad <part>? Love from Lizzie, Alice, Susan & the children.

Aff yr brother
O. O. Howard

U. S. Steamer "Cambridge"
Off "Beaufort N.C."
March 28 1862

Dear Father

I was exceedingly glad to receive your very kind letter of the 7th. it being the only "news from home" I have received in a long, long time - I wonder if you get my letters? I wrote Helen a month or more ago but have got no answer, and you do not mention whether you have heard from me at all or not. I wish you would be particular to do this when you write as it is the only means I have of knowing if you get my letters -

I hardly know how to reply to the main subject of your letter - You well know my views on religion are entirely different from those you have ever advocated - and which you have now accepted as the rule of action for your future life, and in the faithful observation of whose precepts you depend for happiness here & hereafter - I cannot see how your life - the morality and virtue of which can be doubted by none, and of which those who know you best are ^{the} most willing to testify - can be made more moral or more virtuous, by this change - how you can be a better Father, a better husband, a better friend, a truer man - but this may be from not understanding the change, you tell me though that you are happier - that one week in your new way of living, is productive of more happiness than a whole lifetime before - rather strong language Father - but I do hope you may find it so always - this poor world of ours is full enough of sorrow and trouble at the best, and if any one can find any way of diminishing the sorrows or increasing the joys of his own or fellow

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creature's life - I can heartily wish him "God Speed" though I
may not agree with his mode of accomplishing it - It is my sincere
wish that you and all those dear ones who have lately emerged from
"darkness into light" may find all the happiness ^{you} a thousand times
more, than it ever "entered into their hearts to conceive"

While you in
Farmington blocked up with snow drifts, are thus enjoying all
the advantages & privileges of your revival - we down in "Dixie" are
experiencing all kinds of excitement - You have doubtless read about
the great Naval battle 'at Newport News' but unless you have
read a different account from any I have seen, ^{you} have got a
wrong idea, or none at all, of the services rendered by the
"Cambridge" on that day - We had been to the Fort on the
morning of that Eighth, sent our boat ashore for the mail
as was our custom once or twice a week, taken our boat aboard
again, & nearly reached our station when coming around
Sewall's point from the direction of Norfolk was discovered
a strange craft which our officers made out by use of glasses
to be the "Merrimac" of which so much has been "said & sung"
for the last few months, at the same time the Steam frigate
"Minnesota" stationed at "Hampton Roads" was seen to be under
way and heading for the stranger - The Frigate St. Lawrence
which had been lying at anchor near our station, for a day or
two now signalled us to tow her in, there not being a breath of
air to move her - as we rapidly steamed up toward her, to take
her in tow, the heavy boom of a gun was heard and looking
toward Sewall's point we saw that the battle had commenced
while we were getting a hauler to the frigate the firing
increased rapidly broadside after broadside being exchanged until
the scene was hidden from our view by smoke - everybody was

impatient anxious and "eager for the fray". After getting within
frigate fast, we made tracks for the scene of action at a rate which
a soldier would call "double quick" as we passed the Rip Raps and
reached Sewals Point all hands were called to quarters and soon
the rebel batteries opened on us, most of the shot passed over
but some of them sufficiently near to make their hissing more
distinct than agreeable - one burst over the quarter deck, cutting
away some of the rigging & slightly ^{wounding} cutting the hand of the officer
of our after pivot gun - we returned their fire, with admirable
precision, placing every shot within their fortifications - Steaming
up nearer the "Merrimac" we found the "Cumberland" sunk, the
"Congress" had surrendered, & the "Minnesota" aground though
still bravely contesting the unequal fight - it was now about
sunset, and the sight was one of grand though melancholy beauty
the "Merrimac" and "Minnesota" exchanging broadsides in
rapid succession, a few of our gun boats engaging two rebel
steamers - one of them iron clad like the "Merrimac" the
Cumberland with nothing but her tops above water - but
glorious to behold - the stars & stripes still waving - the
Congress aground completely riddled - & the St Lawrence
& ourselves about the only servicable vessels left. we
fired away at the "Merrimac" as fast as possible hitting
her several times but with no effect - As the water was
too shoal for her to get any nearer the "Minnesota", she
turned her attention to us in company with a rebel steamer,
with the amiable intention of leaving us in the condition of
the "Cumberland", or accommodating us with a safe anchorage
at Norfolk - this she would inevitably have done had
not the "St. Lawrence" which we still had in tow - poured

into her a tremendous broadside, which we aided by the four of our guns that could be brought to bear. This terrific discharge so injured the Steamer that she sank during the night - It had the effect to check the "Merrimack" that had molested us no further and we steamed away for Fortress Monroe where we cast off the "St.

Lawrence" safe & sound - the battle was ended for that day and we were the last to leave the ground - Such was the part taken by the "Cambridge" on that disastrous day - we saved without a doubt the fine 50 gun Frigate "St. Lawrence" which had we left her would inevitably have shared the fate of the "Congress" for there was not a breath of air to move her - We were struck in the hull by three shot doing no injury except to our appearance. So we were in the thickest of the fight for two hours, doing good execution & saving a ship to the service together with, who knows how many valuable lives. And all the papers say is "The Cambridge" tossed the "St. L" up & back" - O reporters when will you learn to give "Credit to whom Credit is due"?

We learned with delight that the "Monitor" had arrived at the Roads, and began to have some hopes of saving the "Minnesota" which we were obliged to leave aground & which the rebels would probably finish in the morning. During the night the battery steamed up to the battle ground and Sunday morning we witnessed that magnificent deed, of which you have doubtless read many accounts - but no description can do it justice - At an early hour we discovered the "Merrimacks" "James town" & "York town" drawn up in line of battle off Sewall's point, while the little "Monitor" lay alongside the "Minnesota" looking very much - as the rebels said - like a "Cheese box on a plank" They evidently did not know what to make of her but probably supposed she was some "Toy".

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fitted up for the occasion. Soon they all steamed down for the
"Minnesota" the "Merrimack" taking the lead - while the "Monitor"
advanced to meet them - when near enough to commence firing the
Jamestown ran down ahead of the "Merrimack" that "Monitor" thinking
evidently, that the little "Cheese Box" was not a foe worthy her
attention when suddenly a light puff of smoke arose gracefully from
the box, a shot weighing one hundred & eighty seven pounds went striking
through the air, and our friend the Jamestown turned tail
instantly & steamed away up under the S. Fort batteries at double
quick. Evidently finding the contents of the "Ganker Cheese Box"
rather too much for her digestive powers - the "Merrimack" then
approached and the fight began - O wasn't it a glorious sight
our little "Monitor" with only two guns and seeming like a speck
on the waters - fighting & keeping at bay & finally driving off three
of the enemies largest steamers all heavily armed, and either of
them seeming to be able with one broadside to sweep her out of existence.
We could see her shot strike & go entirely through the "Merrimack"
while those she received from the terrible 100 pounder Armstrong
rifled Cannon seemed to glance off like hail stones - It was no doubt
the finest display of maneuvering & long range shooting which has
ever taken place - Let every true Union heart give thanks and
honor to the noble inventor, for she saved millions of money
& hundreds of lives by her gallant action on that day -

The were
ordered by the Flag officer to get underway for Beaufort N. C.
& much to our regret had to leave before the fight was quite
over. but we had seen enough to convince us that the "Merrimack"
was anxious to "go home"

The were ordered here for the very
important service of assisting in keeping in the rebel privateer "Washburn"

which lately ran in here - When we first came we could plainly see her at her wharf but could not go in to get her as Fort Mifflin is rather near Fort Comfort. But she's gone - taking advantage of the absence of our consort the "State of Georgia" & at a very dark night she ran down & escaped - The "Sensate" a sailing bark on this station saw her & fired ten or a dozen shot at her but she did not stop to return the compliment we ran down for her but could not see her at all so quick had she gone out - She is very fast and we could not hope to catch her under the most favorable circumstances - When will the government learn to provide for such important service in a proper manner - Beaufort is only a few miles from Newbern. So gallantly taken by Burnside a few days ago, and it is said this will be the next point of attack - We shall go to Hampton Roads in a few days & cannot then tell where we shall be ordered -

Ever yours
Free Helen of the
can spare time from her religious duties I should be most happy to receive an answer to my letter - & I do not know why it would not be a Christian act so to do - Love to Mother Keen and all enquiring friends -

From your Off. Son
W. C. C.

P.S. Do write often. & direct as before I get very few letters in comparison with my friends aboard

168	3/23/1862	<i>From:</i> DBG [Daniel B. Graves]	<i>To:</i> Dear Father [Jotham Graves]
	RBH-130	U.S. Steamer Cambridge	
	<i>Source:</i> Bowdoin	Off "Beaufort N.C."	

U.S. Steamer "Cambridge"
Off "Beaufort N.C."
March 23 1862

Dear Father [Jotham Sewall Graves]

I was exceedingly glad to receive your very kind letter of the 7th it being the only "news from home" I have received in a long, long time. I wonder if you get my letters? I wrote Helen a month or more ago but have got no answer, and you do not mention whether you have heard from me at all or not. I wish you would be particular to do this when you write as it is the only means I have of knowing if you get my letters.

I hardly know how to reply to the main subject of your letter. You well know my views on religion are entirely different from those you have ever advocated, and which you have now accepted as the rule of action for your future life, and in the faithful observation of whose precepts you depend for happiness here & here after. I cannot see how your life, the morality and virtue of which can be doubted by none, and of which those who know you best are the most willing to testify, can be made more moral or more virtuous, by this change - How you can be a better father, a better husband, a better friend, a truer man - but this may be from not understanding the change. You tell me though that you are happier - that one week in your new way of living, is productive of more happiness than a whole lifetime before - rather strong language Father - but I do hope you may find it so always - This poor world of ours is full enough of sorrow and trouble at the best, and if any one can find any way of diminishing the sorrows or increasing the joys of his own or fellow creature's life, I can hardly wish him "God Speed" though I may not agree with his mode of accomplishing it. It is my sincere wish that you and all those dear ones who have lately emerged from "darkness into light" may find all the happiness aye, 1000 times more than it ever "entered into their hearts to conceive".

While you in Farmington blocked up with snowdrifts, are thus enjoying all the advantages & privileges of your revival, we down in "Dixie" are experiencing all kinds of excitement. You have doubtless read about the great Naval battle "at Newport News" but unless you have read a different account from any I have seen you have got a wrong idea, or not at all, of the services rendered by the "Cambridge" on that day. She had been to the Fort on the morning of the Eighth, sent our boat ashore for the mail as was our custom once or twice a week, taken our boat aboard again & nearly reached our station when coming around Sewall's point from the direction of Norfolk was discovered a strange craft which our officers made out by use of glasses to be the "Merrimac" of which so much has been "said & sung" for the last few months, at the same time the Steam frigate "Minnesota" stationed at "Hampton Roads" was seen to be under way and heading for the stranger. The Frigate St. Lawrence which had been lying at anchor near our station, for a day or two now signaled us to tow her in there not being a breath of air to move her. As we rapidly steamed up toward her, to take her in tow, the heavy boom of a gun was heard and looking towards Sewall's point we saw that the battle had commenced. While we were getting a hawser to the Frigate the firing increased rapidly broadside after broadside being exchanged until the scene was hidden from our view by smoke. Everybody was impatient anxious and "eager for the fray". After getting the Frigate fast, we made tracks for the scene of action at a rate which a soldier would call "double-quick" as we passed the Rip Raps neared Sewall's Point all hands were called to quarters and soon the rebel batteries opened on us. Most of the shots passed over but some of them sufficiently near to make their hissing more distinct than agreeable. One burst over the quarter deck cutting away some of the rigging & slightly wounding the hand of the officer of our after pivot gun. We returned their fire, with admirable precision, placing every shot within their fortifications. Steaming up nearer the "Merrimac" we found the "Cumberland" sunk, the "Congress" had surrendered, & the "Minnesota" aground though still bravely contesting the unequal fight. It was now about sunset, and the site was one of grand though melancholy beauty. The "Merrimac" and "Minnesota" exchanging broadsides in rapid succession, a few of our gunboats engaging two rebel steamers - one of them ironclad like the "Merrimac" the Cumberland with nothing but her tops above water - but glorious to behold - the stars & stripes still waving - the Congress aground, completely riddled - & the St. Lawrence & ourselves about the only serviceable vessels left. We fired away at the "Merrimac" as fast as possible hitting her several times but with no effect. As the water was too shoal for her to get any nearer the "Minnesota", she turned her attention

to us in company with a rebel Steamer, with the amiable intention of leaving us in the condition of the "Cumberland", or accommodating us with a safe anchorage at Norfolk. This she would inevitably have done had not the "St. Lawrence" which we still had in tow, poured into her a tremendous broadside, which we aided by the four of our guns that could be brought to bear. This terrific discharge so injured the Steamer that she sank during the night - & had the effect to so check the "Merrimac" that she molested us no further and we steamed away for Fortress Munroe where we cast off the "St. Lawrence" safe & sound. The battle was ended for that day and we were the last to leave the ground.

Such was the part taken by the "Cambridge" on that disastrous day. We saved without a doubt the fine 50 gun Frigate "St. Lawrence" which had we left her would inevitably have shared the fate of the "Congress" for there was not a breath of air to move her. We were struck in the hull by three shot doing no injury except to our appearance. So we were in the thickest of the fight for two hours, doing good execution & saving a ship to the service together with, who knows how many valuable lives, and all the papers say is "the Cambridge towed the "St. L" up & back". O reporters, when will you learn to give "credit to whom credit is due"?

We learned with delight that the "Monitor" had arrived at the Roads, and began to have some hopes of saving the "Minnesota", which we were obliged to leave aground & which the rebels would probably finish in the morning. During the night the battery steamed up to the battleground and Sunday morning we witnessed that magnificent duel of which you have doubtless read many accounts, but no description can do it justice. At an early hour we discovered the "Merrimac", "Jamestown" & "Yorktown" drawn up in line of battle off Sewall's point while the little "Monitor" lay alongside the "Minnesota" looking very much - as the rebels said - like a "cheese box on a plank". They evidently did not know what to make of her but probably supposed she was some "Toy" fitted up for the occasion. Soon they all steamed down for the "Minnesota" the "Merrimac" taking the lead, while the "Monitor" advanced to meet them. When near enough to commence firing the Jamestown ran down ahead of the "Merrimac", that monster thinking, evidently, that the little "Cheese Box" was not a foe worthy her attention, when suddenly a light puff of smoke arose gracefully from the box, a shot weighing one hundred & eighty-seven pounds went shrieking through the air, and our friend the Jamestown turned tail instanter & steamed away up under the S. Point batteries at double-quick, evidently finding the contents of the "Yankee Cheese Box" rather too much for her digestive powers. The "Merrimac" then approached and the fight began. Oh wasn't it a glorious sight. Our little "Monitor" with only two guns and seeming like a speck on the waters, fighting, keeping at bay & finally driving off three of the enemy's largest steamers, all heavily armed, and either of them seeming to be able with one broadside to sweep her out of existence. We could see her shot strike & go entirely through the "Merrimac", while those she received from the terrible 100 pounder Armstrong rifled cannon, seemed to glance off like hailstones. It was no doubt the finest display of maneuvering & long-range shooting which has ever taken place. Let every true union heart give thanks and honor to the noble inventor, for she saved millions of money & hundreds of lives by her gallant action on that day.

We were ordered by the Flag Officer to get underway for Beaufort N.C. & much to our regret had to leave before the fight was quite over, but we had seen enough to convince us that the "Merrimac" was anxious to "go home".

We were ordered here for the very important service of assisting in keeping in the rebel privateer "Nashville", which lately ran in here. When we first came we could plainly see her at her wharf but could not go in to get her as Fort Macon is rather near for comfort. But she's gone - taking advantage of the absence of our consort the "state of Georgia" & a very dark night she ran down & escaped. The "Gemsbok" a sailing bark on this station saw her & fired ten or a dozen shot at her but she did not stop to return the compliment. We ran down for her but could not see her at all so quick had she gone out. She is very fast and we could not hope to catch her under the most favorable circumstances. When will the government learn to provide for such important service in a proper manner. Beaufort is only a few miles from Newbern, so gallantly taken by Burnside a few days ago, and it is said this will be the next point of attack. We shall go to Hampton Roads in a few days & cannot then tell where we shall be ordered.

Tell Helen [Helen Julia Graves] if she can spare time from her religious duties I should be most happy to receive an answer to my letter & I do not know why it would not be a Christian act so to do. Love to mother Howard and all enquiring friends.

From your aff. Son

DBG [Daniel B. Graves, Paymaster's Clerk, Steamer Cambridge, U.S. Navy]

P.S. Do write often & direct as before. I get very few letters in comparison with my friends aboard.
D.

[Note. The Bowdoin Library container list gives this as being written by Rodelphus Gilmore to his father Col. John Gilmore. But this is not correct because Rodelphus Gilmore was never in the Navy, and this letter has been written by someone in the Navy during the Civil War. The letter is written to "Father" and a reference implies that they were living in Farmington - John Gilmore only lived in Leeds. I also believe that the closing signature starts with a D and that they middle initial is B, but they certainly don't look like Rodelphus' initials, which would be RHG. In contrast to this, Rowland's future brother-in-law, Daniel B. Graves, was in the Navy on the Steamer Cambridge at this time. His sister, Helen, was to be Rowland's second wife.]