

Rev. R. B. Howard
Present

In the afternoon his sermon was
from the text "In Christ we are a
new creature" - He illustrated
the pleasure of novelty, very beautifully
& showed how it would apply to
the "new creature" - & that it was
only in Christ, we could find such
pleasures - His style is not
eccentric - but very simple, & very
beautiful - just flowing enough
to be pleasant, & interesting - but
not at all very practical - His sermon
this morning did me good, I think -
though perhaps no better than the
other - His voice is too low - He
announced both in the A.M. &
P.M. that he being only a student
of Theology & not a regularly licensed
preacher, should not pronounce
benediction, but the services would
close with the Doxology. I hear
now very few indeed, at this
meeting, & not many more this afternoon
though it didn't rain in the P.M.

R. B. Howard

Shawmington July 5th 1868
My dear husband.
I feel pretty
anxious to hear from you just
now. for we have been having news
of a little battle going on for two
or three days just where you are.
I think I do not give myself any
unnecessary anxiety though, about
you - for I know you will not
expose yourself needlessly, and I
do feel that God will care for you.
Still, I am longing to hear from you
again - I am glad to see that
the 11th Corps is distinguishing
itself - but I fear very much for
our brother - I trust God will
give us a victory this time - I saw
the reports in the papers, everything
looked encouraging, so far - The
Union papers had a report that



Capt. Butcher & St. Childs, are both
missing. We are having a very rainy
Sabbath. It will be a fine thing for
the shrubs & gardens, but rather bad
for Aunt Salina, who will be
anxious to get out to hear Edward
preach. He came up last night
to take charge of the Bible class,
& waited till eight o'clock, & nobody
came but Mr. Dummer & Son
after he left. Mary Gleason &
Lucy Garcelon came. I told
them they were "day after the fair".
They felt badly, but thought they
"couldn't come any earlier". I was
real glad they had such a
reproof, & I hope it will teach
us all to be more prompt. I'm
sure I don't know why the rest
didn't come, except Lotie - her
mother was sick. I felt very sorry.
I think the meeting had better be
appointed at eight, hereafter.

Afternoon. Edward Atwood
preached all day - He was
evidently a little frightened -
who wouldn't be, under the
circumstances - Aunt Salina
was there all day - His sermon
that morning was founded on
that parable of the importunate
widow - Subject - The true meaning
of prayer. I think it should be at
a proper time, & under proper
circumstances - It should be at
a quiet time - The time should
be ample - with not a feeling
of hurry - It should be with
a view to our relations to God -
Through the abundance of his
grace, we have a right to demand
blessings from him by prayer -
Also by his promises - Our prayers
should be with zeal & fervor -
No unconverted person can be
taught truly to pray -

170 7/5/1863

From: [Ellen Patten
Howard]

To: My dear husband [RB
Howard]

RBH-133

Farmington

Source: Bowdoin

Farmington July 5th 1863

My dear husband,

I feel pretty anxious to hear from you just now, for we have been having news of a terrible battle going on for two or three days just where you are. I think I do not give myself any unnecessary anxiety though about you, for I know you will not expose yourself needlessly and I do feel that God will care for you. Still, I am longing to hear from you again. I am glad to see that the 11th Corps is distinguishing itself - but I fear very much for our brothers. I trust God will give us a victory this time. From the reports in the papers, every thing looks encouraging so far. The Lewiston paper has a report that Capt. Butcher & Lt. Childs, are both missing.

We are having a very rainy Sabbath. It will be a fine thing for the Streets & Gardens, but rather bad for Aunt Sallucia, who will be anxious to get out to hear Edward preach. He came up last night to take charge of the Bible class & waited till eight o'clock & nobody came but Mrs. Greenwood! Some after he left. Mary Gleason & Lucy Garcelon came. I told them they were "day after the Fair". They felt badly, but thought they "couldn't come any earlier". I was real glad they had such a reproof & I hope it will teach us all to be more prompt. I'm sure I don't know why the rest didn't come, except Lottie - her mother was sick. I felt very sorry. I think the meeting had better be appointed at eight hereafter.

Afternoon. Edward Abbott preached all day. He was evidently a little frightened & who wouldn't be, under the circumstances. Aunt Sallucia was there all day. His sermon this morning was founded on that parable of the unfortunate widow - Subject: The true manner of prayer. 1st. It should be at a proper time & under proper circumstances. It should be at a quiet time. The time should be ample, with not a feeling of hurry. It should be with a view to our relations to God. Through the abundance of his grace, we have a right to demand blessings from him by prayer. Also by his promises. Our prayers should be with zeal & fervor.

No unconverted person can be said truly to pray. In the afternoon his sermon was from the text "in Christ we are a new creature." He illustrated the pleasure of novelty, very beautifully & showed how it would apply to the "new creature," & that it was only in Christ, we could find such pleasures. His style is not Abbott, but very simple, & very beautiful, just flowery enough to be pleasant & interesting, but withal very practical. His sermon this morning did me good. I think though perhaps no better than the other. His voice is too low. He announced both in the A.M. & P.M. that he being only a Student of Theology & not a regularly licensed preacher, should not pronounce a benediction, but the services would close with the doxology. There were very few indeed out this morning, & not many more this afternoon though it didn't rain in the P.M.

[missing page. No closing salutation - Assume Ella (Patten) Howard]

War Department,

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Washington, Aug. 10th, 1864.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose to you, herewith, your Commission of *Aide-de-Camp*....., the receipt of which please acknowledge.

I am, Sir,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

S. F. Chalfin.

Assistant Adjutant General.

Major Charles H. Howard.

Aide-de-Camp.
No. 1, Dept. of the Term,
Chattanooga, Tenn.

*Recd -
acknowledged
Aug 20 1864*

Howard

Wm. D. Spaulding
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

Washington, D.C. 1864

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of
your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the
which please acknowledge.

I am, Sir,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Wm. D. Spaulding

Adjutant General's Office

Very respectfully,
Wm. D. Spaulding
Adjutant General's Office

171 8/10/1864 *From:* S. F. Chalfin, *To:* Major Charles H. Howard

RBH-132 War Department, Aide-de-Camp,
 ADJUTANT Hd Qr Department of the
Source: Bowdoin GENERAL'S OFFICE, Army
 Washington Chattanooga, Tenn.

[Letterhead]
War Department,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, Aug. 10th, 1864.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose to you, herewith, your commission of Aide-de-Camp, the receipt of which please acknowledge.

I am, Sir,
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
S. F. Chalfin,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Major Charles H. Howard
Aide-de-Camp,
Hd .Qrs. Dept. of the Ten.
Chattanooga, Tenn.

[Handwritten on the margin]
Recpt. acknowledged August 20, 1864

Farmington. Apr. 17. 1865.

Rev. R. B. Howard,

Dear Sir,

The undersigned having listened to your able and eloquent sermon delivered last Sabbath morning on the occasion of the death of our beloved President, most cheerfully endorse your sentiments in relation to the conspicuous part which Mr. Lincoln has borne, in putting down the rebellion, also the just tribute to his honesty of purpose and nobleness of heart.

We therefore respectfully solicit you to furnish a copy of that discourse for publication.

Robt Goodnow Hannibal Belcher

A. P. Kelsey

H. M. Howes

A. H. Abbott

H. J. Graves

J. B. Serry

Lucian A. Prescott

Geo. M. Gage

R. S. Rice

S. Tarbox

Le Allen

Chas. Greenwood

W. C. Bailey

J. V. Stewart

Jos. W. Fairbanks

Examination No. 1865

Rev. A. B. Howard,

Dear Sir,

The undersigned having
listened to your able and eloquent sermon delivered
last Sabbath morning on the occasion of the death
of our beloved President, most deeply impressed
your sentiments in relation to the confederacy
part which the Union has borne, in putting
down the rebellion, also the just tribute to
his purity of purpose and nobleness of heart.
We therefore respectfully request you to furnish
a copy of that discourse for publication.

Very respectfully,
J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

J. B. Howard

172 4/17/1865 *From:* Robt Goodenow *To:* Rev. R. B. Howard
 and 15 others
RBH-134 Farmington
Source: Bowdoin

Farmington, Apr. 17, 1865.

Rev. R. B. Howard,

Dear Sir,

The undersigned having listened to your able and eloquent sermon delivered last Sabbath morning on the occasion of the death of our beloved President, most cheerfully endorse your sentiments in relation to the conspicuous part which Mr. Lincoln has borne, in putting down the rebellion, also the just tribute to his honesty of purpose and nobleness of heart.

We therefore respectfully solicit you to furnish a copy of that discourse for publication.

Robt Goodenow	Hannibal Belcher
A. P. Kelsey	H. M. Howes
A. H. Abbott	H. J. Graves
J. B. Sevry	Lucian A. Pierath
Geo. M. Gauge	R. S. Rice
S. Tarbox	C. A. Aller
Ch. L. Greenwood	W. E. Bailey
F. V. Stewart	Jas. W. Fairbanks

[illegible][illegible]

173 10/7/1865

From: [R B Howard]

To: My dearest wife

RBH-135

Source: Bowdoin

War Department,
Bureau of Refugees,
Freedmen, and
Abandoned Lands.
Washington

[Letterhead]

War Department,
Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands.

Washington Oct. 7, 1865

My dearest wife

It must be nearly 3 P. M. & I hear nothing about Dinner yet, indeed I noticed that Otis does not close his office till 4. So I hope to have a good quiet time to write. I think I should feel utmost happy if you were here this P. M. In spite of the oppression of tomorrow that always begins to overshadow me about this time Saturdays. This Room is large & half furnished in the usual semi-civilized military way. It overlooks a part of Washington, Georgetown & commands since fine views of the Potomac. It is at the opposite end of Washington from the Depot & Capitol on Penn Av. a mile from the president & very near the Georgetown "Bridge" (no. 16 Penn Av.). If your father has a map of W. you can find it directly. It is about the finest site I have seen in this miserable town. It is owned & rented by a Rebel to Otis & some of his officers - only two Stinson & Col. Taggard are here now. I occupy a room of Col. & Mrs. Markland, who have just gone to Cal.

How brief & unsatisfactory my little visit to Bath was! The afternoon was spent long before I anticipated it. Poor little Dadie! How sorry he was to have me come away so soon. Darling Otie & wife - how dear & how feeble - like you both seemed.

Give my love & congratulations to Mr. Fiske. I did not know of his arrival till told of it by Crosby Sewall aboard the Boat. The latter had me share his State Room no. 1 as he thought it pleasanter than mine, but it was a rough night rather and I slept very little. John had mine. Mr. Sewall talked a good deal with me about Mr. Fiske & Hammond. He & Mr. Wiggin & others do not treat me at all as Capt. Drummond does.

Who should I meet on board but Mrs. Lucia Leadbetter Curtis husband & little boy of two. I enjoyed the evening very much with her, not having seen her before since she became a Christian & I was very much surprised & happy to find how mature she was. She wants very much to see you & our children & we must visit them & cousin Laura Preston at the same time. They live near each other in Medford where Mr. P has been pastor of a Baptist Church 7 years.

In the morning Mr. Sewall took one side of my trunk & we walked up to Washington Street & took the horse cars to Worcester Depot. I breakfasted in a poor way for 1.00\$ at the U. S. Hotel. But it must have been a substantial breakfast, for I ate not a morsel of anything not even an apple (3 cents for poor ones) or pear (15 cents!) till I was through N. Y.! I then ate an apple & at 11 1/2 bought two Sandwiches & a boiled egg 30 cts. I didn't feel hungry all day, and as this is a mission church enterprise, I avoided expense a little on their acct! I had a long, dusty, dull ride, uninterrupted except to shake hands & converse a while with Horatio Ladd, who was on his return to New Haven from a preaching place near by. We arrived at six & it took an hour to take the long ride in the transfer coach of Laidley's Express to the Ferry. (They take passengers now as they used to Baggage leaving them sometimes!) The train started right off & we road till 6 this morning to the Washington Depot. I roused up to look at Phila., Baltimore, Perryville (where the cars are ferried over) but dozed a good deal on those narrow seats, always waking up with some part of me asleep! I was a stranger on the long train. The night was cold & I needed a shawl, but got thro it nicely & feel unaccountably well & unsleepy (?) today.

I took my valise & road to Willard's Hotel. (I always "stop there" in order to get my pay for the 2.00\$ they charged Guy & me for a washing our faces in a room there after the first Bull Run!) There I washed & brushed, had my valise checked & set out under the clerks directions to find the Bureau. A colored man there directed me here, and I found none but the servants up, but soon Maj. Stinson - "the mere boy" came in & by & by Otis. Lizzie was never more cordial or respectful & I feel as if my presence really adds to her pleasure. I ate

Breakfast enough for two! There were three officers beside the family. Two mentioned above and another (Gen (Brig. Brevet) Strong). There are two colored girls & two boys, one beside Lane.

Otis horses are left at the Govmt Stables, I think. He has three - two of which he uses on a carriage that I have not seen. The cough does not seem to trouble the children much & they seem happy. The three eldest have been down at the Bureau nearly all day. I went up there about 10 a. m, was introduced to A.B.H. - went with Otis to see the Sec of War & the Pres. but saw neither! I hadn't face to follow Otis in to the former when I had no "business" & Otis came away without seeing the latter because he couldn't wait long enough. We passed in next to each of these high official. It was interesting to see the crowd waiting for interviews. The pardon seekers fairly crowd the anteroom of the Pres. They are a hard faced - "rich-looking" set, I tell you. I enjoyed passing them all as we did & some of them might wait there a long time before I'd pardon them for the scoundrels, half of them, have an ugly look in both the English & American sense. I spent an hour in their Soc. this a.m. 9/10 of the arrivals at Willard's are from the South. Where do they get the money to stop there with?

Otis is the hardest worked man I ever saw. People follow every step he takes and arrest him with some request almost every moment. His office is full all the time too. He is very busy now giving up their houses & lands to them - the rebels. Half his business at the South next week is to take away the land from the Freedmen at the Sea Islands (30,000) & give it to a Dozen Rebels, & the President sends him down because he thinks he can persuade the Freedmen not to make a row about it. He dreads it like death! How can he do it! Tell your father he ought to have been present at an interview between Otis & Hon. Barnwell Rhett yesterday P. M. I was not there but have heard about it from a no. of persons. That arch Rebel - original dyed in the wool - had the profound impudence to ask Otis to transport at Gov'mt expense his 400 former slaves back from Ala. where he had run them off during the war to S.C. (Otis) "Sir, would you have asked this of the Confederate government, if it had been established?" "Most certainly not" replies Rhett. Then I regard it as the height of impudence for you to do as you do in reiterating it to me!" [Note 1]

"But you have stolen our property & now you refuse to return it!" Otis. "Your property! I should be ashamed to claim my fellow-men as property!" Rhett got mad. Otis, I am sorry to say, ditto, and the latter gave him his notions of the crimes of treason & rebellion & their forfeitures and on his persistence in his rebel talk & overbearing, impudent manner. Otis told a man to show Mr. Rhett the door! Poor chivalry! How they will rave. All the officers around were delighted of course & said a kick would have helped him down stairs. He is nearly as rich now & will be as proud & overbearing as ever. Otis has to do so much "dirty work" for Johnson, that he must give vent to his own feelings sometimes.

I was introduced to Gen Blair, Gen Townsend & other notables. Also a rebel Dr. Nott from Mobile. I should have asked him about our cousins, but was afraid he'd think less of me for knowing A.G. Otis ordered a medical college restored to Dr. N. today.

I have seen none of the Church people yet. Otis says he had nothing to do with sending for me. Stinson thinks Mr Alvord suggested it to the com! They have a large congregation. Otis goes South on Tues, and I am to go as a sort of private Sec. if he can get me assigned. We go all the way by Rail & hope to see Charles. I may go no farther than Charleston, but he & Capt Stinson will go clear around to N. Orleans, and up the Miss. If anything important occurs, you can send it to Lizzie & she will telegraph & mail directly to Otis. Your ordinary letters may be sent to "care of Gen. C.H.H. on Gen. Saxtons Staff." Charleston S.C. It will be some time before we reach there but letters would follow us very slowly. I suppose we go directly to Raleigh N.C. As Otis has been so lately in Richmond Va, I'm afraid he won't stop long there, but you shall hear as often as practicable from us. Don't you see how Providence managed better than we about the Chicago affair, enabling me to take this much more useful one without expense! But I may not go & I'm sure I'll be content with that if so it must be.

Dinner bell!

And now as it is growing dark, I must reluctantly close. With love to Grandpa & Grandma & kisses to my little Darlings.

Your loving Husband

[Note 1. From this point to the end of the letter the pages were moved from an undated fragment, RBH-317, to complete the letter.]

Washington Oct. 9/65

Dearest

Otis & I have just
come in from a meeting
of young mens Ch. Aps. a
good meeting it was &
gives me a higher view
of Washington Society =

We start at 3: O'clock
in the morning going
down the river in a
Steamer to Aquia Creek
thence to Richmond via
Fredericksburg - thence
to Md. by Rail -

I will write this line
to say good bye & to
tell you how sorry I
am to go without a
letter from you - But I
must trust you all
with God - Lizzie will
forward your letter when

I have written to Warren
Merrill - Dear Lizzie

this for Otis

L. M. G. W. & asked

it comes to Charles -

I enclose \$40 lest I lose
it in Dixie! If my money
fails I will borrow of

Alis & send it to him -

I think now I shall go
to the Miss. with him, unless
letters from you & Fanning

you advise my return where
I reach Charleston - If you

wish it, please spend ^{some}
the ^{of} Treas. Note dated Aug 10
as there is no interest ^{yet}

that yet - The Char. Ch. paid
me \$68 & were sorry it was
so little! Mr. Morrill intro-

duced me to the man in
the Navy Dept. who wore out
my old hat & he gave me
2 \$ for it! I have bought

a new shawl one for the
South for \$20 & a linen
coat for the same look
country - All the family go up
for as a quiver Creek with
us returning in the

Boat. Mr. C. & Mrs. C. & family

175 10/9/1865 *From:* R. B. Howard

To: Dearest [Ella Howard]

RBH-136

Washington

Source: Bowdoin

Washington. Oct. 9/65

Dearest

Otis & I have just come in from a meeting of Young Mens Ch. Asso. & a good meeting it was & gives me a higher idea of Washington Society.

We start at five o'clock in the morning going down the river in a steamer to Acquia Creek. Thence to Richmond via Fredericksburg, thence to N.C. by Rail.

I only write this to say good bye & to tell you how sorry I am to go without a letter from you. But I must trust you all with God. Lizzie will forward your letter when it comes to Charles. I enclose \$40 lest I lose it in Dixie! If my money fails I will borrow of Otis & send it to him. I think now I shall go to the Miss. with him, unless letters from you & Farmington advise my return when I reach Charleston.

If you wish it, please spend on the Treas. Note dated Aug. as there is no interest on that yet. The Church paid me 50\$ & were sorry it was so little! Mr. Morrill introduced me to the man in the Navy Dept. who wore <out> my old hat & he gave me 2\$ for it! I have bought a new straw one for the South for <5.00> & a linen coat for the same hot country.

All the family go as far as Acquia Creek with us returning in the Boat.

Your loving husband
R. B. Howard

I have written to Warren Merrill, Dea Sitcomb & Mr. Goodenow & asked this for vacation.

Washington Oct. 9/63
My dear Mother

I had
a very pleasant journey
arriving here Sat. Morn.
at 6. O'clock - I found
Ours house in time to
Breakfast with the family -
I found them all well,
hardly any trace of the
cough remaining, but
plenty of Mosquito bites -

My own family at Bath
were as well as usual
and I hope Ella will
write you & send back
last letter - Ours has
quite a large birch
house on a high bank
overlooking the street &
a good large back yard
for the children - I
Enjoyed my Sabbaths

preaching very much.
They sent for me because
their minister was sick.
They paid my expenses
on and back - giving me
50¢ = Alis & I visited
one colored & one white
S.S. yesterday & tonight.
We have been to a very
good meeting of Christian
young men =

Alis has asked me to
have South with him
as his Secretary, - and
we start tomorrow morn-
ing & will be gone two
or three weeks, probably.
We hope to see Charles
by next Sabbath and
there get a letter
from you - Capt. Hinson
only goes with us but
Mr. Alvord joins us at

Richmond - All the
family will go down
the Potomac as far
as Aquia Creek &
then return on the Boat =

I will try to write
you again from
Charleston & Charles.
Your affectionate Son
Ronald

174 10/9/1865 *From:* Rowland [RB
Howard]

To: Dear Mother [Eliza
Gilmore]

RBH-137

Washington

Source: Bowdoin

Washington Oct. 9/65

My dear Mother

I had a very pleasant journey arriving here Sat. Morn. at 6 o'clock. I found Otis house in time to Breakfast with the family. I found them all well, hardly any trace of the cough remaining, but plenty of mosquito bites.

My own family at Bath were as well as usual and I hope Ella will write you & send Chas. last letter. Otis has quite a large brick house on a high bank overlooking the Street & a good large backyard for the children. I enjoyed my Sabbaths preaching very much. They sent for me because their Minister was sick. They paid my expenses on and back, giving me 50\$. Otis & I visited one colored & one white S. S. yesterday & tonight we have been to a very good meeting of Christian young men.

Otis has asked me to travel South with him as his Secretary, and we start tomorrow morning & will be gone two or three weeks probably. We hope to see Charles by next Sabbath and there get a letter from you. Capt. Stinson only goes with us but Mr. Alvord joins us at Richmond. All the family will go down the Potomac as far as Acquia Creek & then return on the Boat.

I will try to write you again from Charleston & Charles.

Your affectionate son
Rowland