Thisen It have a good soon 2 hell- fr is well & threaters rain this Morning: This is not a pleasunt place at this Leasen of the year-the Herubberg is withered of the choirth I the Land + dust- are morre than at Francisco - The Surleings all seem olie à most of them neglecties. Engling nanti recutings & thirth - the Capital Evidents was not nushed er Chaused for Leine hire previous tothe not. H- is sweared with these price & themely filly in suy part the Rebels are relighted but they are setting append sprome again, with the rilea that Thes plusar is on their Side - Otis has requested rue to mile hother Sce, of low new! How I would brie very surling good bye for the present. with many hipes a un freels. haber a line to Grandena Grandepa youling husband

Rabeigh M.C. Oct. 13, 1163-

My deanst mijo

We arrived here the Lever night (Nedwesday) of the day on which we left Estersburg Ia but I have been able to get no offer-Cerify to mile lite now her leave here tonights at 6. I'm, for Wilmington (Bo, miles) and lispe to annie there lomonan ferencon à Uz well spend the Sal, there + I mean to look up ou obse lumsman (Mitchell): I am song ur couce not reach tehanles las yet au letter stee Charles begine the Tabbeth - Our journe Wither from Na was quite motorotimens, the principal meilent being, the croping of the Kounthe at gustin in boots, the RR Bridge nor Tuning been rebuilt at that point Mr did not aronge over 16. mily

Joe hove. Its ate an (hunch" beneglet of a little Darbey in the Ecro: Me luce a long I pleasant sinceriew with Gov. Swain hes. of the Mile. University for 30 years and one of the most able oprominent men in the flete. He gave rue a good idea of public Levelinents here- Cal Whiteless + It med Decher (When I han nounded at getterburg, met us at the deport us had & good Diener Lepper at Head Quarter of the Bureau. It is a big call lisesse a mile from loven - Buce : Elegant. but now half desnaged of an aring. Here une le doggen Officer. Ou nife o me Lachen. they seem to have a pleasant family gesterdy I visited the State le apitol vouve the State Connection. a delegale frem Each County's is in deprin & testened le a sey ceble debate on the Rebel Debt contracted by

M. C. during the Nar- In point of abilitish Mulle lave dene any hour to my Legis latite took in the Country. I look down seen rewirls for future reference - In the Evening, Olice all Repeating Comention on the Lubject of preedmen & the Bureau - It was an of huppiech effects. but feel cleave 2 Cold apar the large aprembly. He new coldy responded to by the of their heast prominent wen: They profess to be beaut bibolitimister but nout to be Let alwe's nithdraw your hoops - your Bureau, your School, & Energething Else and wire will be well anugh off - ? has through disquested as the hypocialiese The web of an Hen the Readle . hes of the Cenventin - He represented the Stanbolder to be the purest, most benessent holiest people in the reliable world! Hang

176 10/13/1865 *From:* Rowland [B.

Howard]

To: My dearest Wife [Ella Howard]

RBH-138 Raleigh N.C.

Source: Bowdoin

Raleigh N.C. Oct. 13, 1865

My dearest Wife

We arrived here the same night (Wednesday) of the day on which we left Petersburg Va, but I have been able to get no opportunity to write till now. We leave here tonight at 6 P.M for Wilmington (130 miles) and hope to arrive there tomorrow forenoon. We will spend the Sab. There & I mean to look up an old townsman (Mitchell). I am sorry we could not reach Charleston & get our letters & see Charles before the Sabbath. Our journey hither from Va was quite monotonous, the principal incident being the crossing of the Roanoke at Gaston in boats, the R.R. Bridge not having been rebuilt at that point. We did not average over 10 miles per hour. We ate our "snacks" (Dinner) bought of a little Darky in the cars.

We had a long & pleasant interview with Ex Gov. Swain, Pres. Of the N.C. University for 30 years and one of the most able & prominent men in the State. He gave us a good idea of public sentiment here. Col Whittlesey & Lt Fred Beecher (whom I saw wounded at Gettysburg) met us at the Depot. We had a good Dinner - Supper at Head Quarters of the Bureau. It is a big cold house a mile from town - once elegant, but now half destroyed by our Army. Here are a dozzen officers, one wife, & one Teacher. They seem to have a pleasant family.

Yesterday I visited the State Capitol where the State Convention - a delegate from each County - is in Session & listened to a very able debate on the Rebel Debt contracted by N.C. during the War. In point of ability - it would have done honor to any Legislative body in the country. I took down some remarks for future reference.

In the Evening, Otis addressed this convention on the Subject of Freedmen & the Bureau. It was one of his happiest efforts, but fell dead & cold upon the large assembly. He was coldly responded to by two of their most prominent men. They profess to be hearty abolitionists, but want to be "let alone" - withdraw your troops - your Bureau, your School, & everything else and we will be well enough off. I was thoroughly disgusted at the hypocritical speech of an Hon Mr. Reade, Pres of the Convention. He represented the Slave Holders to be the purest, most benevolent, holiest people in the whole world!

Harry Stinson & I have a good room & bed. It is cold & threatens rain this morning. This is not a pleasant place at this season of the year. The shrubbery is withered by the drouth & the land & dust are worse than at Farmington. The buildings all seem old & most of them neglected. Everything wants neatness & thrift. The Capitol evidently was not washed or cleansed for some time previous to the war. It is smeared with tobacco juice & extremely filthy in every part.

The Rebels are whipped, but they are getting uppity & proud again, with the idea that Pres Johnson is on their side.

Otis has requested me to write to the Sec. of War now (!) & so I must bid my Darling good bye for the present. With many kisses to our sweet babes & love to Grandma & Grandpa,

your loving husband Rowland

not for guest lufroised to tes My dear Mother Ocio hegan a letter to you at Wilmington but I do not know , or he finished it he Show last Subbath there We attended the Baptist old 2 meeting - Mrs. I Mitchell is Luft of the former - ter went to dinner with him - He seems like nerybody Else here to have heen made would power by the was, lens got to have been letters rumed as meany mere - He has 9 children three grown who dangliters all resem ble their mother and are not part ty- I went of found time at his Hore on that, I he heaten us sees Whilely Our addreped the whiles on date, I the Bludhy on Sub, Evening -Mr spent out To have in Restructions. one night in Telenburg & Two days sin Waleigh = I bearied a good deal of the Cutter place meeting with Mile. = This is our 3- day here. Charles met us at the Depot 2

not very much turprised to see me at he had no intimation They coming. He seems perfectly Well & serg busy - He lives with maj Lantin of trife in a deserted house wear the Lea in plain sight of It. Tumpler - Tolusens Island de = Olis went down to an Island. (Edisto) yesterday to Confer with the Colored people 2 try to received them to give it up to the former somes - Today he & Blacker & Expt Stinsen have que la bolumbia. to see you sery & others - they will return lowonon o us will speld the Labouth here I then jorine further South by Heaven to Lanumula Gu- dugaria I allante, Juntymen o mobile of Itis Can be away to long -Charles had a letter fiere Dellie the 10th of Oct and I will fourish up the business about the Alisperine When I come home tell Wash the Old Musters are getting their people again & heat them just like flaxes. I hope he will Leaf Menth = Agner affectionate Sen

178 10/20/1865 *From:* Rowland [B.

Howard]

To: My dear Mother [Eliza Gilmore]

RBH-139

Charleston S.C.

Source: Bowdoin

Charleston S.C. Oct. 20/65

My dear Mother

Otis began a letter to you at Wilmington but I do not know as he finished it. We spent last Sabbath there. We attended the Baptist S.S. & meeting. M. B. F. Mitchell is Supt. of the former. We went to dinner with him. He seems like everybody else here to have been made much poorer by the War, but not to have been utterly ruined as many were. He has 9 children - three grown up daughters, all resemble their mother and are not pretty. I went & found him at his store on Sat. & he treated us very politely.

Otis addressed the whites on Sat. & the Blacks on Sab. Evening. We spent only 7 hours in Richmond, one night in Petersburg & two days in Raleigh. I learned a good deal at the latter place - meeting with Otis many of the leading men of N.C. This is our 3d day here.

Charles met us at the Depot & was very much surprised to see me as he had no intimation of my coming. He seems perfectly well & very busy. He lives with Maj. Saxton & wife in a deserted house near the Sea in plain sight of Ft. Sumpter, Johnson's Island, &c.

Otis went down to an Island (Edisto) yesterday to confer with the colored people & try to reconcile them to give it up to the former owners. Today he & Charles & Capt Stinson have gone to Columbia to see Gov. Perry & others. They will return tomorrow & we will spend the Sabbath here & then journey further South by Steamer to Savannah Ga., Augusta, Atlanta, Montgomery & Mobile if Otis can be away so long.

Charles had a letter from Dellie the 10th of Oct and I will finish up the business about the <whipperwill> when I come home.

Tell Wash the old Masters are getting their people again & treat them just like Slaves. I hope he will stay north.

Your affectionate Son Rowland

Ingland supo the here non here here from home - It seems the muils Come believing & une live of Steamers from N.y. Starting and que a mech so your letters much have arried of n.G. just after It Heaver Sailed, but as ver will not leave here title munday, ? lie in hope - I have been spite Junell with my old mubble Since Jesterday leur au much het: pler today- I was disuppointed Jest to go down the harber North Olis & Charles to Edistoe Island Jesterdy where they werd In Geente au sinfertante but Mitt disagreeable hust. Misthe restire to some 1/2 Sog-Rebel somen recently par direct the Land en which 6000 regroes and Supper ling Lobools Meetings

Lane of the Kelice owners weich down with them & as Me Alrad describes the Scene I am glad I was non there- The negroes one knew that Gen Huvard, their great prend thenefaction was com nig & the crunded to the fline in huncheds receiving time with gladuel. honoring him with a Caralacte 2 c = Then they were all gathered in a large Cleur th he hope & them the Lad tidings - They did not week but received over Melewed! Therman had princised their this land I they had occupied o coltrated it depending on the good faith of the Gornit = him they must go & work under their old musters or

179 10/20/1865 *From:* Rowland [B.

Howard]

To: My dear wife [Ella Howard]

RBH-140

Charleston S.C.

Source: Bowdoin

Charleston S.C. Oct 20, 1865

My dear wife

We have now been here, this is the third day, & no news from home. It seems the mails come exclusively by one line of Steamers from N.Y. starting only once a week so your letters must have arrived at N.Y. just after a Steamer Sailed, but as we will not leave here till Monday, I live in hope. I have been quite unwell with my old trouble since I came & did not sit up much yesterday but am much better today.

I was disappointed not to go down the harbor with Otis & Charles to Edisto Island yesterday where they went to execute an important but most disagreeable trust - viz. to restore to some ½ Doz Rebel owners recently pardoned the land on which 6000 Negroes are now getting a good living and supporting Schools & Meetings. Some of the Rebel owners went down with them & as Mr Alvord describes the Scene I am glad I was not there. The Negroes only knew that Gen Howard, their great friend & benefactor was coming & they crowded to the Shore in hundreds receiving him with gladness, honoring him with a cavalcade &c. When they were all gathered in a large church he broke to them the sad tidings. They did not weep, but seemed overwhelmed! Sherman had promised them this land & they had occupied & cultivated it depending on the good faith of the Govm't. Now they must go to work under their old masters or [Note 1] have. Many have earned money enough to buy lots if they could be allowed. O dear, O dear! It has almost killed Otis & us all to do it, but he must do it or resign, & then who would care for any of the interests of this despised Race!

I drew up an obligation for the Masters to sign. 1st that they would employ all the negroes. 2dly That they would submit all differences to a board of Referees. 3dly that they would interpose no obstacles to Schools for colored children. But alas they will do as they choose. Men who can commit treason are capable of other crimes.

I wish you could have been present at an interview between Otis & some of the principal citizens of S.C. Gov Aiken, a professed Union man, & formally the largest slave owner in the State being among them, and the chief speaker. They tried to ride Otis right down at first till he told Gov. A. "I can do nothing about it then. You can't have your land." Then his tone changed wonderfully & he began to plead for the virtue, honesty & christianity of himself & friends. They have recovered more impertinence during the last month than they lost by defeat, I do believe. O it is a wicked, hypocritical, selfish, arrogant lot! And [Note 2] to think that Johnson will let them back into wealth, influence & power so soon, & welcome them to Washington & to places in the Government which they despise in heart, fills me with surprise & sorrow. Gov. Aiken & Mr. Whalley whom we talked with are both candidates for Congress. Charles says he has yet to meet the first native So. Carolinian who does not openly speak of the Sovereign State of South Carolina. Otis & Charles have gone to Columbia today to see the Old Gov. (Perry) & the new one (Orr). I was to go but was not well enough. They arrive at 7 tonight & leave at 2 tomorrow morning.

Gen Saxton will be removed if he does not resign within a week, in consequence of the hatred borne him by the people here. What Charles will do then, I cannot tell. He would have his place, but for the looks of the thing.

Charleston is as still & quiet as Bath, & even more so. A Brass Band played finely Hail Columbia, the Prisoners Hope & other airs on the Battery a little way from here & I walked out there about sunset last evening. Only the colored people & a few soldiers were about, where formally the wealth & fashion used to crowd. I can see the battered remains of Ft. Sumpter from this house, Yes this window & the forts from wh. the Rebels first bombarded it, in the gay & festive Season of Secession.

I can see too the dim & distant point of land from whence Gen. Gilmore [Quincy Adams Gilmore] used to hurl his death dealing shells into this City. The fall of the first one was the signal for a stampede by thousands who have not yet returned & who will not till the hated Yankee Garrisons are withdrawn as they are soon to be. Every other house bears marks of a shell & in almost every Square one or more buildings were burned in consequence. How many times they would have hung me here for what I so freely utter anywhere!

O you should see the Colored School in the State Normal School House! The latter is a splendid building erected before the war for the education of white teachers. In each of its rooms, of which there as many as 10, there is a school of different sexes & grades. The principal is a colored man named Cardoza, a native of Charleston but educated at the University of Glasgow Scotland.

Nearly all his teachers are colored, more or less, but I noticed three white ladies from the north. After visiting the various apartments, the whole school were collected in the upper hall. There were about 700 small & great as they stood up there 9/10 of them were many shades lighter than pure Ethiopean, but some were perfectly white & some equally black. They sang (O how enthusiastically!) "I have a Father in the promised Land", "I'm glad I'm in this Army" & some other songs & Otis talked to them a while & so did I.

As I sat there & thought of the change, tears of wonder & gratitude filled my eyes. I heard as good reading as in our Normal School, as good spelling, as good recitation in Geography & some excellent ones in mental arithmetic. It shows at least what may be done for the Race! Mr Alvord thinks I ought to remain South. His argument is - it opens a larger field of usefulness - brings me in contact with more minds both here & in N.E. than otherwise would be the case. How think you could stand the slights &c of your Southern Sisters? He intimates, I can take any situation here that may seem to me most appropriate & promising of good.

Evening. I feel almost well tonight, but am anxious for Otis who seems prostrated by care & work. He sat up till 2 a.m. this morning & will be up all night tonight & has a sore throat. I have been out walking by the Sea. Just at the corner of the Battery, there is a sort of fort. In it the Rebels had their largest gun. It burst when first fired & almost destroyed the fine three storied marble house in its rear. The climate tonight is June-like, the oranges are just beginning to grow yellow. There are two trees in this garden. The figs are all gone, but there are trees in the garden, but no apples, pears or grapes about here. The shrubbery & flowers are still beautiful in some gardens. I haven't done much but read today & write some. I hope to go down to Ft Sumpter tomorrow. Gen Saxton asked me to preach to the negroes Sunday but I don't know how!

It seems rather lonely without Otis & Charles, & O how I want to hear from you & my sweet babes. Tell Dadie I am keeping my stories to tell him when I come home

Sat. Morn. I will have to mail this without hearing from home. I am quite well this morning & hope this will find my dear ones the same.

Rowland

[Note 1. The letter from this point to the marker for Note 2 was taken from the last two pages of a 6 page undated letter remnant filed as RBH-318.]

[Note 2. The letter from this point to the last paragraph was taken from the first 4 pages of a 6 page undated letter remnant filed as RBH-313. Someone had added that it was written from Charleston, S.C. after 4/1865.

Charlestin Och 24,1863 Leave being the wife of the service you see by the above that I am Seite here. Weather bound this time. Ver Harted and in the Learner Canonicus for Larannah yesterday, Troke our Kudder chain shad to put back after going about 10, miles: I Enjoyed the Luil down the harbor a Charles toler me about the first & batteries = he paped sey new Lump. to le near that the ruin seemed Do desolate that I did not care to go ashere - them me got notice the bor the mind black a glade and I was sich as Ever I was. Gring in the bottom of the babin & Vomiting to my own dis just and the amuse ment of Love others: Wes got back robert 12. I after Durine he voile but to Magnolia Country- the Greenwood of Charleston - It has been reglected since the non but is that a beautiful spot which has been adorned by great Expenditures, generally in good taste - Que lot Enclosingthe gare of a Jailors rupe is certaing unique bears Endence of the most singular devotion = He less adonned it with all sents of Sheller-One large marble flature & one Small one

and in colored glass there were mescriptions like there. My Dear, That your first slash Rifo" - "my frist love" I were Elunces he Cened were place that misoriplim over his Wife! There was a wooden cumopy over the grave & Marions Mange & Curious relief 2 denices all around. It was down when We (Mr. Laxlin Edie & a Diner, with Charles & Muj of on horseback) arrived have: le hemen down rain curve in in the right and tho! We were what b. Bur Capt declined to Start in sa de weath wuch to Olis disquest I mig relief - I believe the plan now is A go in a U. S. Grun boat detailed on purpose about 10, P.M. : They say they roll beautifull, and as neither my head a Sumash are get Lettled and the Lea is still lineasy from the Storm that has just Cleared anay, I outierfale augthing but a pleasant night But it will be good to feel in a top place with plenty of men abouts. By coming buch I got my bith day letter from you = - muder if these two 13 th o 17th nece all you mote: It seems to me a journel to Framinglin would be rather a have one for me to lake

alme- I mote to the Maken about getting in the rest of the garden Leuse of Machine about the horse. This October Climate is quat - Ile alluit - roses blopming in the Genelen like June. the ulrole winder open by my hilo. Mu Luxlin is Let of "Common" I think soy no wears pretty I not very agreeable. Lup Lecesh with a flougy Sound 2 talkes in a flatish Junkeich may - the is very kines tho! I Evidence a great admirer of Charles is are most- fi her Lex = Hen nured you like to live here cut by all decent people having the reputation of propeping cell the weavest a linest hails of your county in men: That will be the face of all northern tadies who come here for many years to Care - Charles got with forme latter (Lecash) Tabbath Evening of Said he needed were sey much. The negroes are all the true friends the northerness have here - We are going to vide about the life a little this I, m,= oud here's the horse- be good bge, Darling. 3. Jan liny husband

180 10/24/1865 *From:* Rowland [B.

Howard]
Charleston

RBH-141

Source: Bowdoin

Charleston Oct 24, 1865

Dearest

You see by the above that I am still here, weather bound this time. We started out in the Steamer "Canonicus" for Savannah yesterday, broke our rudder chain & had to put back after going about 10 miles. I enjoyed the sail down the harbor & Charles told me about the forts & batteries. We passed very near Sumpter - so near that the ruin seemed so desolate that I did not care to go ashore. When we got "outside" the bar the wind blew a gale and I was sick as ever I was, lying in the bottom of the Cabin & vomiting to my own disgust and the amusement of some others.

To: Dearest [Ella Howard]

We got back about 12 & after Dinner we rode out to magnolia cemetery - the Greenwood of Charleston. It has been neglected since the war, but is still a beautiful spot, which has been adorned by great expenditures, generally in good taste. One lot enclosing the grave of a sailors wife is certainly unique & bears evidence of the most singular devotion. He has adorned it with all sorts of shells. One large marble statue & one small one and in colored glass there were inscriptions like these - "My Dear, I had your first & last kiss" - "My first love". I told Charles he could never place that inscription over his wife! There was a wooden canopy over the grave & various strange & curious relics & devices all around.

It was dark when we (Mrs. Saxton, Edie & a Driver, with Charles & Maj S. on horseback) arrived home. A tremendous rain came on in the night and tho' we were up at 6 our Capt declined to start in such weath much to Otis disgust & my relief. I believe the plan now is to go in a U.S. Gun-boat detailed on purpose about 10 P.M. They say they roll beautifully, and as neither my head or stomach are yet settled and the Sea is still uneasy from the Storm that has just cleared away, I anticipate anything but a pleasant night. But it will be good to feel in a safe place with plenty of men & boats.

By coming back I got my birth-day letter from you [b. 17 Oct 1834]. I wonder if these two 13th & 17th were all you wrote. It seems to me a journey to Farmington would be rather a hard one for you to take alone. I wrote to Mr Mahen about getting in the rest of the Garden <> & Mr Pepper about the horse. This October climate is great - I'll admit - roses blossoming in the Garden - like June - the whole window open by my side. Mrs Saxton is sort of "common" I think & by no means pretty & not very agreeable - says "Secesh" with a slangy sound & talks in a flattish Yankeeish way. She is very kind tho' & evidently a great admirer of Charles as are most of her sex. How would you like to live here cut by all decent people having the reputation of possessing all the meanest & <lowest> traits of your country women. That will be the fate of all northern ladies who come here for many years to come.

Charles got with some ladies (Secesh) Sabbath evening & said he needed me very much. The negroes are all the true friends the northerners have here. We are going to ride about the City a little this P.M. And here's the horse - so good bye, Darling

Your loving husband

8. Evening Tues. 24.

Here still! The Gunboat couldn't be got ready & we are to start again in the "Canonicus" tomorrow at 8 a.m. So I have been just a week in Charleston. I'm afraid we won't have time to stop at Beaufort now. Did I tell you about Charles boy Jim. He took Wash's place but proves quite a different character. Charles sent him to jail & excited the pity of us all Sunday night, but this afternoon he went to see him & Jim confessed that he stole & spent the 60\$. What to do with him is the question. He will leave him in jail till we get back. He will sell back some clothing for 20\$ but I guess the rest is sunk & Charles feels pretty poor.

Charles friend Capt Ketchum is here & a fine fellow he is. I dread the <> tomorrow a little but it won't hinder my sleeping.

If you don't go to Farmington, drop a line to W.F. Guy & he will send you the <" at home".>

I'm so glad Otis [son Oliver Otis Howard b. 14 Feb 1865] grows to be a good boy. Dadie [son David Parker Howard b. 10 Aug 1861] must be very kind to him & love him very much because he is so little. Tell Dadie about Papas ride in the Steamboat. I try to bring the moss but haven't much room - haven't seen any bright leaves this side the Potomac.

With all my heart Your Rowland

I hope Anna will feed the chickens. We will want them fat by & by.

Wareau Sund 20, miles Out of Savannah Ga Oct 26, 1863. Dearest Here wer are at & O'clock, We are in moothe water that glistens in the mouth jet much hear tipely = How I do nich you were here! Her left Lavarmak at s. P. m. and our leget dues not dans go outside" litt daystiple. There is but me beside one part Rehas Hairy Our Me Word + meself) / He is a log left love legs Rebel officers whom Oter miritia to take the book to facksmille The We were all day getting Savaruck from Charlestin yes. terday - stopping tome fine hours all places Hillin Head; where we had an victorier with gen Gilmane. We ened not go to Beaufurt weech to my disappointment & suore to Charles as he heard that a certain Leacher

had returned to fuith plantation" I much like to have Leen Charles Regiments, the young lack, and the Our mail go an wich out of the no for my during but busings! he arried at 10. 1. Me and 3. Sleft in my room on the Bowh notwith standing a good deal of toth about by orace, fine se lifen the river: I got up with the Sun & forward the River as wide as the Kennebic at augusta runing muckly red a yellowish red tuch as is been in all Louthern Sciams-Large hore houses were west the Wharf. and the lower had to heleadiest by flights of Stains of Leave on the first lunding for Octs Heliales when were half an home later. I then we walked up to the Relashe Herise to a yworlkenhfact where I had two glapes of honiel realer + worke Tea t coffee that they try bring by

181 10/26/1865 *From:* Rowland [B.

Howard]

RBH-142 Steamer Canonicus

Warsaw Sound 20 miles out of Savannah

Ga

To: Dearest [Ella Howard]

Steamer Canonicus Warsaw Sound 20 miles out of Savannah Ga Oct. 26. 1865

Dearest

Source: Bowdoin

Here we are at 8 o'clock P.M. anchored in 6 fathoms of water. We are in smooth water that glistens in the moonlight most beautifully. How I do wish you were here! We left Savannah at 5 P.M. and our Capt does not dare go "outside" till daylight. There is but one beside our party (Chas, Harry, Otis, Mr. Alvord & myself). He is a legless (one leg) Rebel officer whom Otis invited to take this boat to Jacksonville Fla. We were all day getting to Savannah from Charleston yesterday, stopping some five hours at that most desolate of all places Hilton Head, where we had an interview with Gen Gilmore. We could not go to Beaufort much to my disappointment & more to Charles' as he heard that a certain Lady had returned to "Smith plantation". I would like to have seen Charles' Regiment, the young lady, and the much talked of young lady, but Otis won't go an inch out of the way for anything but business!

We arrived at 10. P.M. and I slept in my room on the Boat notwithstanding a good deal of talk about exposure, fever &c. upon the river. I got up with the Sun & found the River as wide as the Kennebec at Augusta, running muddy red - a yellowish red such as is seen in all Southern Streams. Large warehouses were next the wharf, and the town had to be reached by flights of stairs of stone or brick. I waited up on the first landing for Otis & Charles who were half an hour later, & then we walked up to the Pulaski House to a good Breakfast, where I had two glasses of iced milk, in place of the horrid water, & worse Tea & coffee that they bring us [see Note 1] here. I then got shaved and brushed & went over to the Bureau Office, where Otis & Charles preceded me. We found Dr. Massie of England at the Hotel & he accompanied me later in the day, visiting the Colored Schools. You remember that I heard him speak in Boston & Portland.

Savannah is a beautiful city & shows few marks of the war. Business is lively & there is no desolate district as at Richmond & Charleston. At 1 P.M. Otis addressed the Colored people. From 11 ½ to that time he held a <> for the rich old masters, in the parlor of the Pulaski House. You ought to see them flock around him & hang upon his words, deciding as they do at times interests amounting to thousands of dollars. Charles & I rode about town - I upon a very large & awkward steed formally the property of the Rebel Gen Hood.

After the meeting, I had a little ride with Otis in his carriage, while he rode & called on a wealthy widow & restored her lands. The schools we visited today are supported & carried on entirely by the colored people themselves. One is in the Old Slave Mart, with its barred windows & the other in a medical college. In the latter are 350 pupils whom Dr Massie & I addressed, I representing as well as I could "The General". For Dinner I took an Oyster Stew (5 cts) at a Restaurant. We start at Daylight in the morning for Jacksonville. How pleasantly the surf sounds on the distant beach! How sad this poor Rebel. Tears came in his eyes a number times while he told me about the war today. They are the saddest people I ever saw & my heart bleeds for them often, when I hear of their individual sufferings - all friends dead & gone - all property swept away. Poor Harry, how he coughs. Chas is writing opposite, the rest are in bed & thither will I now follow them.

With love.

Fernandina Fla Evening of Oct 27th.

We are at anchor at the wharf of this little place, which is about as large apparently as East Wilton, no more good houses than there. We must stay here till the tide favors us & will not go on to Jacksonville till 7 tomorrow. We arrived about 4. I being just a little Sea Sick all the way from Warsaw Sound where we spent the night. There are 6 churches, & not a School House here! The colored people came out at 5 & Otis addressed them & I made a prayer as usual. The principal Residence was that of the Rebel General Finnegan. It is now used as an asylum for colored orphan children under charge of a Mr <Kennie> & a Miss

Merrich of Syracuse N.Y. Mr K. is sick of a fever. There are 4 young lady teachers just arrived, Poor things! How the sleeping apartments smelled! Otis stayed to Sea but I preferred to come on Board. The mosquitoes are coming on good I tell you and as I have some writing to do for Otis I must close.

Fernandina is on an Island & had a number of Hotels & was quite a resort for invalids before the war, but aside from the climate there is nothing attractive & I would much rather die at home. A mail goes northward tonight & will take this.

Your loving husband

[Note 1: The letter from here to the closing at Fernandina was found in the fragment RBH-314.]

here a 1 vene there! Lubbath morning This is the most novemberish mouning that 2 here seen - but don't dread the mister too much Darling - he will do all us can to make the house name a confertable 2 our clothing ditto 2 Ounclus Contented mustful shappy. I have seen us place, the appear ance of which was no pleasant to the Eze and no people among Whom I would choose to live ruther them Farmington - and yet if my character & repertation and the leadings of gods think I Providence rule give res a home Where we can be peer from tem. poras Embarapmento Utan there oure at the same time have a mospest of mider resegulisely, I tiver ruyself in reddings to leave But, I must confess I see no such place vilile in the Minsty- I could leave it

Voilag & go South and vito busi. nef with my name one a make 3tro & a jun at least, but 3 Showell Repeat the cause of God to be upon me & mine- Gen Fishe nas offered 10,000 a year just to reside en a large Plantaten Hohe Charge of the labor & I have heard pregnently of 2 or 3000 heing offerent to ordinary men for the Yeum purpose The theet is to get a man relu can manage the meedmen & in When they have Confidence - but Wor is me, if Spreach us the Gospel! and I noved have it so There, the Bushfast bell! With love to all - Kisses & my Durling Jun Rewland

Mar Department,

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Conceident of the Koks, Decrest Hashington, Och. 30, 1865. Selevely & I must also mite a little to nine - les arried here Today (Lunday) about 2. P.m. - hz from Jacksonville (165, miles) i of having a quiet Labbath here conceined of this nor the Ilmose I wast I be had any a bex freight you on old mattres but I sut Jup on a board Leat & thumped I therefred any all right; but I am this: A it & thankful, & Thope! It took us two hours to get

Roberts & Hewline governor- you humen see the lichness of your for the robe of all studies the dearet before in the light day good for the former. The house house of the lice that for house they have been the former of the house of the hou the most miserable of Breakfast at a place called madison this Morning - I concel geat at all for which Chas & Chi Servery berated ms. but ver all laughtel + always that at the Combination of povertix filth (Trish allegro) dis-Jeleged on that lable; I met leapt. Humpson of Francington at Jacksonville. He is a partier there of leaph. Dr. laughow of the tame pleasent tillage. They are in hade - les bad a large weeking in the Open air at Lunset last brewing, with a large Meg. of Colined hoofs & a Bund of Music - Jacksenulee is about the size of Brusnich. the whole town miserably sinted-Cel in a Landbank - This is huf a beautiful place - Charles + I had an admiring walk after Dinner Here are spacious

182 10/30/1865 *From:* Rowland [B.

Howard]

RBH-143 Tallahassee Fla

Source: Bowdoin

[Letterhead]
War Department
Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands.

Tallahassee Fla Oct. 30, 1865

Dearest

Otis has written his wife a short letter to send back by Charles & I must also write a little to mine. We arrived here today (Sunday) about 2 P.M. We started on a special train from Jacksonville (165 miles) last Evening at 7 in the hope of having a quiet Sabbath here but of all the R.R.s you ever conceived of this was the slowest & worst! We had only a box freight car. Charles & Mr Alvord lay down on some brush & Otis on an old mattress but I sat up on a board seat & thumped & thumped away all night, but I am thro' it & thankful, I hope!

To: Dearest [Ella Howard]

It took us two hours to get the most miserable of Breakfasts at a place called "Madison" this morning. I could not eat at all for which Chas & Otis severely berated me, but we all laughed & always shall at the combination of poverty & filth (Irish & Negro) displayed on that table.

I met Capt. Thompson of Farmington at Jacksonville. He is a partner there of Capt. Dr. Vaughan of the same pleasant village. They are in trade.

We had a large meeting in the open air at Sunset last evening, with a large Reg. of Colored troops & a Band of Music. Jacksonville is about the size of Brunswick, the whole town miserably imbedded in a Land-bank. This is truly a beautiful place. Charles & I had an admiring walk after Dinner. There are spacious grounds & splendid gardens. You should see the richness & quantity of the roses of all shades - the oleander 15 to 20 feet high - the crape jasmine & other flowers.

Maj. Cutler has just been in to see me. He is stopping at this Hotel. Thinks his Reg. will start for home by Dec. 1st. We hope to see cousin Warren Woodman at Barancas as we pass to Mobile. We spend the day here tomorrow, meeting the State Convention & others & then go to St. Marks (20 miles) and take a Steamer for Mobile. Wonder if your cousins Abner & Lemeul have got around there yet! We will not go up into the State of Ala. as Gen Swayne is to meet us at Mobile. He is Commissioner for the State.

I do hope that you & our darling babes are well tonight. It must be quite cold in Bath now & still colder in our poor old house at home. I wonder what has become of the plants?

If you write Lottie tell her about Maj. Cutler if you please. He is very well & seemed very glad to see me. "Aunt Belchie" will hear thro' her.

I hope we will be in Washington by a week from next Sabbath, and then Homeward Bound! I've seen no place equal to Farmington to live in yet! Poor Otis! Has he got to give up his "comforts"! Give him a kiss form Papa. Tell Dadie we saw a lot of great white birds today bigger than doves, called Curlens, and that I saw a little beauty of a Deer yesterday. We have seen some magnolia groves & sugar cane fields, have been nibbling some of the cane today. The oranges all look very green on the trees and are rather sour for my taste.

Charles goes back to Charleston thro' St. Augustine tomorrow & will take this.

Your loving Rowland

gues you of rinferioristor of the M. S. will & greater then 3, years of freedom. 2 Mar Department, Bureau of Befugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands. will risk them- They will be able to Thurish Hole" Martington, Och HU 3/7, 1865. take Come of their selves: The Bance of the Holy Con bath Steamer Convog" 10, The Regulars plaged on the Tragge of the Speciest miles off It marks Fila. Hate Heure last Enning beautifuly- They I I he left Tollahapee at 8, a, m. today Que Germans and seem about as much cultivature as the olive west Paint Band and came down to It- marks wie 23; miles If was to bilerating to bear mingled en a flow freight train. There we forered with rune classic sunsic. Than Spangle: nothing but a whorf I ware hueses full of Barner - Kingdom Cerning. Lamp, Tramp, Trump, Jump Cotton - a Bath Bayne Dingo Capt, Blair Closing up with youhen Dovelle. He Leasth gather round & Summe to anje the amusica Ares loading there & I went a spoke with Our troops were clepeated wince in Figury Tyet to that place cluring the now &. Buce him. Then we look a row boot with 4, at Oliestee under Gen Legemen, 2 Duce negro toldier and Came donn to this at Wenfut sier kunder gen henting to the Rebly were fretty provide whent here. place the mouth of the River . 8, wiles - The Last reclued day night we had a gover but it Jun reas rather hot best one ruese revel will hould be fearable here - Mr Expected bravely & ver new left them two heres. The my Centler with us wely but for Lorne Season by Slowing helical the Surgeon is about and soleaner Mcleallow that we theolice to be be storie behind highest terrus of him. I muche so the state family are torright? there she will children there bills children is a Rebel; Midlie above & Oli hemispin is a Rebel; Midlie above & Oli hemispin is a Rebel; Midlie above & Oli hemispin is here has not arrived I ver are about the Envirg a vice little Heaven that las had the mister.

Time to get aground here over two needes lince: They are near lightening her and have a ling & hope to get off as Tight liele about 12/2, O'clock tright. If us do us ville go en in this book and nots Mach for the Mc Callon, non at Pensaco la coals sig: It is & beautiful & the monlight & the maler glisteres ble tilrer. Olis ta Gen Forsagth Die Malking the deck - Having & Mh alonce hore gove to their rooms - It is David to be about 48 horers Lail to mobile. Lets Lee, the letter I sent by Charles left us at allahaface Mon. dag moming. Mr visitére le, little colored Tehools (self soffating before Dinner - at 8, 112 had are weal meeting of the coloned people. buil at 7/2, 66 addreped the Concention A the State House - Gor Marren is a True 2 noble man, us think, but the Concention is made up of mean looking fellowis -

They are determined (I think to get with the Union if populle. and then go back to their old habits of Stone holding this gave them Some good & plain talk - Trish rungharly coccese le their "Contractes" with their vegroes, made fince their freedom & filed at leal, Osbornes: Many of them are here faced frances when the Colone people. They mean to reciplate on Element them. But there are good as cleant were, like Ger. Marrier Miso well Try to do right - They (the Floridians) en a Miskey diwhing tobacco . Chewing , Swearing lying Let - the better class of colored ruca nie Tallahafe me tuperice nie ruorals I manner & the neaf of while's that gather torounce the Hotel there. I wish you consel talle with the Colored ruinisters, leachers & rintelligent wen as I have. Ju nemell lose that feeling that the plantation Slove

184 10/31/1865 From: [Rowland B Howard] To: Dearest [Ella Howard]

RBH-144 "Spanish Hole"
On board Steamer
"Convoy" 10 miles off

St. Marks Fla.

[LETTERHEAD]

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

"Spanish Hole" October 31st, 1865. On board Steamer "Convoy" 10 miles off St. Marks Fla.

Dearest

We left Tallahassee at 8 A.M today and came down to St Marks river 25 miles on a slow freight train. There we found nothing but a wharf & warehouses full of cotton. A Bath Barque "Dirigo" Capt. Blair was loading there & I went & spoke with him. Then we took a row boat with 4 negro soldiers and came down to this place, the mouth of the River, 8 miles. The Sun was rather hot but our men rowed bravely & we were less than two hours. The Steamer "McCallom" that we expected to be here has not arrived & we are aboard the "Convoy" a nice little Steamer that has had the misfortune to get aground here over two weeks since. They are now lightening her and have a tug & hope to get off at high tide about 12 ½ o'clock tonight. If we do we will go on in this boat and not wait for the McCallom, now at Pensacola coaling.

It is a beautiful & still moonlight & the water glistens like silver. Otis & a Gen Forsyth are walking the deck. Harry & Mr Alvord have gone to their rooms. It is said to be about 48 hours sail to Mobile. Let's see, the letter I sent by Charles left us at Tallahassee Monday morning.

We visited a little colored School (self-supporting) before Dinner. At 5, we had our usual meeting of the colored people, and at 7 ½, Otis addressed the Convention at the State House. Gov Warren is a true & noble man, we think, but the convention is made up of mean looking fellows. They are determined (I think) to get into the Union if possible, and then go back to their old habits of Slave holding. Otis gave them some good & plain talk. I wish everybody could see their "contracts" with their negroes, made since their freedom & filed at Col. Osbournes. Many of them are bare faced frauds upon the colored people. They mean to reenslave or exterminate them. But there are good or decent men, like Gov. Warren who will try to do right. They (the Floridians) are a whiskey drinking, tobacco-chewing, swearing, lying set. The better class of colored men in Tallahassee are superior in morals & manners to the mass of whites that gather around the Hotel there.

I wish you could talk with the colored ministers, teachers & intelligent men as I have. You would lose that feeling that the plantation slave gives you of inferiority. If the U.S. will guarantee them 3 years of freedom, I will risk them. They will be able to take care of themselves.

The Band of the 7th Regulars played on the Piazza of the State House last evening beautifully. They are Germans and seem about as well cultivated as the old West Point Band. It was exhilarating to hear mingled with more classic music, Star Spangled Banner, Kingdom Coming, "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp" closing up with Yankee Doodle. The Secesh gather round & seemed to enjoy the music. Our troops were defeated twice in trying to get to that place during the war. Once at Olustee under Gen Seymour, & once at Newport river under Gen. Newton. So the Rebels were pretty proud about here.

Last Wednesday night we had a good prayer meeting on the "Canonicus" but it will hardly be feasable here. We expected Maj. Cutler with us today, but for some reason he staid behind. His Surgeon is aboard, and speaks in the highest terms of him.

I wonder how my dear little family are tonight? Here is a Rebel's widow & three little children come aboard by Otis permission. They look rather unclean but otherwise interesting. We have fished off the stern a little & one man has shot a crane this afternoon.

[Rowland]