

have sown will be found to count
of equal worth with the work of the
reaper.

Rest assured, we shall ever re-
member you and yours with the
deepest sympathy and interest in
the field to which God shall call
you, and we will pray for his
richest blessing both spiritual
and temporal to attend you
ever.

By vote of the Church.

Attest:

L. Reeve Chairman.

W. D. Bolton Clerk.

Congregational Church,
Princeton, Ills.

June 30th, 1875.

Rev. R. B. Howard,

Dear Sir and Brother,

In accepting the
resignation of the pastorate of this
Church, presented by you on the
16th inst., thus severing the relations
of pastor and people which have exist-
ed nearly five years, we wish in
some way to express the feelings which
this action has called forth.

We have found you ever an
earnest and fearless preacher and
advocate of the truth, a leader
and zealous worker in movements
of reform.

Your walk, before us, as a man
and a Christian has been con-

sistent, and worthy of emulation.

Your devotion to the interests & work of the Church, the Prayer Meeting and the Sabbath School has been deep and earnest.

We have ever found in you a true friend and brother — never wanting in your sympathy and pity for the sorrowing and distressed — consoling the afflicted and bereaved — helping us to bear our burdens and griefs, thus learning to the better to bear those which God has not withholden from yourself — counseling the ignorant — cautioning and guiding the erring, and, in a thousand ways, endearing yourself to us, and placing us under loving obligations by your never-failing kindness and interest as our pastor and friend.

And we wish just as sincere

ly and truly to express our sense of having failed many times and in many ways to meet the obligations which grew out of the relations we sustained to you.

We needed and have received your patience and forbearance; and we pray that the lessons they have taught us may not, as we believe and feel they will not, be lost upon us in our future life and experience as a Church.

God has made your labors with us a blessing in many ways; and if He has not permitted you to see the full fruitage of an abundant harvest of souls as the result of your work, yet we are sure He will not suffer your labors to be in vain in Him, but when he that soweth, and he that reapeth meet to count their sheaves, the seed you

206 6/30/1875 *From:* L Reeve

To: Rev. R. B. Howard

RBH-165

Congregational Church,
Princeton, Ill's.

Source: Bowdoin

Congregational Church,
Princeton, Ill's.
June 30th, 1875

Rev. R. B. Howard,
Dear Sir and Brother,

In accepting the resignation of the pastorate of this Church, presented by you on the 6th inst., thus severing the relations of pastor and people which have existed nearly five years, we wish in some way to express the feelings which this action has called forth.

We have found you ever an earnest and fearless preacher and advocate of the truth, as leader and zealous worker in movements of reform. Your walks before us, as a man and a Christian has been consistent, and worthy of emulation. Your devotion to the interests and work of the church, the Prayer Meeting and the Sabbath School has been deep and earnest. We have ever found in you a true friend and brother - never wanting in your sympathy and pity for the sorrowing and distressed - consoling the afflicted and bereaved - helping us to bear our burdens and griefs, thus learning the better to bear those which God has not withholden from yourself - counseling the ignorant - cautioning and guiding the erring, and, in a thousand ways, endearing yourself to us, and placing us under loving obligations by your never-failing kindness and interest as our pastor and friend.

And we wish just as sincerely and truly to express our sense of having failed many times and in many ways to meet the obligations which grew out of the relations we sustained to you.

We needed and have received your patience and forbearance, and we pray that the lessons they have taught us may not, as we believe and feel they will not, be lost upon us in our future life and experience as a Church.

God has made your labors with us a blessing in many ways; and if He has not permitted you to see the full fruitage of an abundant harvest of souls as the result of your work, yet we are sure He will not suffer your labors to be in vain in Him, but when he that soweth, and he that reapeth meet to count their sheaves, the seed you have sown will be found to count of equal worth with the work of the reaper.

Rest assured, we shall ever remember you and yours with the deepest sympathy and interest in the field to which God shall call you, and we will pray for his richest blessing both spiritual and temporal to attend you ever.

By vote of the Church.

Attest:

L Reeve Chairman,
C. D. Colton Clerk

Ms. Ella Howard Smith
55 Morning St.
Portland,
Maine

Copy of a letter from our father (age 38) (40)
Rowland Bailey Howard to Aunt
Lizzie Patten Rogers (age 26) (29)
referring to father's wedding day.

Agusta, Maine.
Aug. 21, 1875.

Dear Lizzie:-

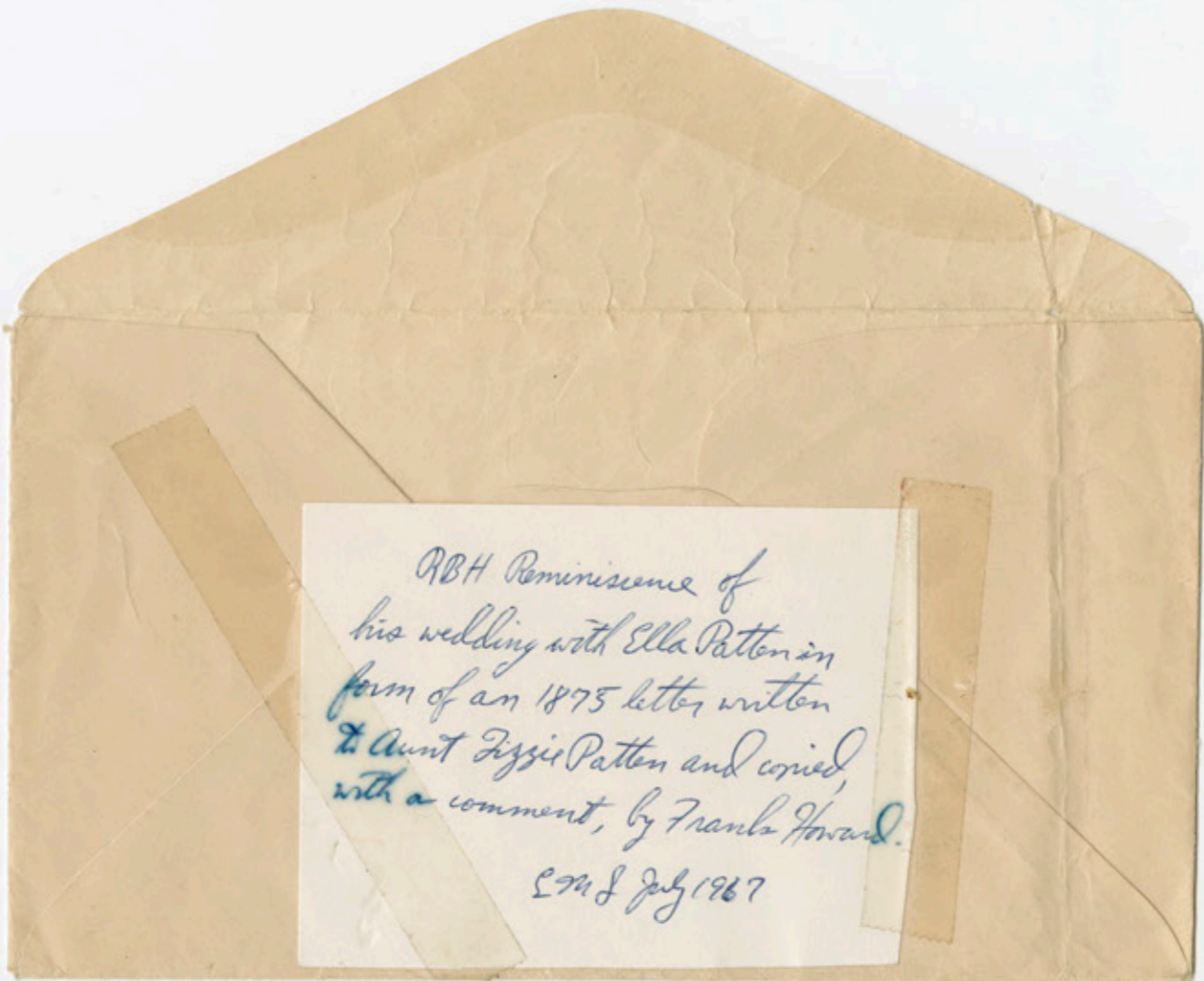
No indeed, I do not forget it, this "wedding day" - The flutter of preparation - the poorly understood marriage vows and prayers - the presents in the little room. Poor little Lizzie who drew tears to her papa's eyes, by her weak back, - dear little Hattie, - well and wondering Horace, pretty, dressed, roguish & merry. Poor Charles and his girl, busy mamma, interested papa; flushed, excited, thoughtful, deep-hearted Ella - a willing sacrifice; - awkward, green, bewildered bridegroom, - the refreshments, the two hacks, the mistakes, the cars, the Preble House, the boat, the hot night. Ella's loyal tears for the old home never to be her's again. It all comes back to me today. How one after the other they filled out God's plan of joy and sorrow; and have disappeared from all the eyes that loved them. They are not in the poor narrow yard of graves. They have gone on. They have more cause to weep over us than we over them. Oh, I do so long for a higher, clearer, more unselfish, heavenlier life. Helen's entire self-forgetfulness is a perpetual marvel and incentive, while it condemns me. She seems to live only for those whom she can help. She is as loyal to dear Ella as to me, and her parents, always writing me to be better and showing me how. You may never know her on earth, I am sure you will in heaven. I am a weak faithed, worrying and worrisome kind of a man, always wondering why God denies to me the love and appreciation that would make me a greater power in His Kingdom. I seldom rise to self-forgetfulness. I am sore over failures and elated over little things, but She writes; "You are one of God's elect and I want you to forget your own personal ambitions and go about your Master's business in humble trust in Him. He will give you all the love, all the success that is best for you, and that is all you want." She wrote thus when I told her I coveted the love, the influence, the Souls, that God gives to so many of my bretheren. I don't know how she would forgive me for lifting the veil thus off her heart. She writes in deep sympathy for your mother and wants the boys to come to her if that will be a relief. Thanks for your very kind letter and the good news. Mrs. Hale too is better, tell Dadie. I have a number of Princeton letters but no news that would interest you. I took tea at Dea. Halletts last evening. Mrs. H. had just returned from Topsham. I may be down Monday, but may not get away till next day. I may not see you. I want to go to Harpswell for a day or two if possible and to Old Orchard. I have no further preaching engagements. Serry you did not hear Dr. Hall in Portland. If I call on you there I will try not to be "burdensome" as you will have no girl. With love to all

Your affectionate brother

Sat. Eve. I was glad to see Dadie.
We may not be "home" till Tuesday noon.

Rowland.

Copied by F.G. Howard
Jan. 1, 1905, New York.



RBH Reminiscence of
his wedding with Ella Patton in
form of an 1875 letter written
to Aunt Fizzie Patton and copied,
with a comment, by Frank Howard.
29th July 1967

copy of a letter from our father (age 33) (60)
Howard Patton Howard to Aunt
Lizzie Patton Howard (age 28) (28)
referring to father's wedding day.

Agnes, also
Aug. 22, 1875.

Dear Lizzie -
So indeed, I do not forget it, this "wedding day".
The first of preparation - the party and the marriage
you and I were - the presents in the little room, four little
the little the day before to her papa's room, by her work book,
dear little Lizzie - well and wonderful indeed, pretty, dressed,
rejoiced a very, dear Lizzie and the girl, my name, interested
paper, finished, excited, thoughtful, deep-hearted Lizzie - a willing
assistant; - a happy, good, beautiful girl, indeed, - the relation
man, the two books, the mistakes, the cars, the People House, the
best, the hot night, Lizzie's joyful tears for the old home never
to be her's again. It all comes back to me today. How one
after the other they killed and God's plan of joy and sorrow;
and have disappeared from all the eyes that loved them. They
are not in the your narrow path of grief. They have gone on.
They have gone on to weep over us than we over them. Oh, I
do so long for a higher, clearer, more unclouded, heavenly life
Lizzie's ancient self-forgetfulness is a personal sorrow and
inactive, this is common to all. She seems to live only for those
when she can help. She is as large as death, as we are not.
The greatest thing in the world is to be better and shining to live.
For my own sake, I am sure, I am sure, I am sure, I am sure,
I am a weak, wretched, weeping and wretched kind of a man, always
rejoicing in God's love to me the love and appreciation that
would make me a greater power in the Kingdom. I seldom rise to
self-forgetfulness. I am sure every Lizzie and I stand over
little things, but the writer; you are one of God's great ones
I want you to forget your own personal sorrows and go about
your father's business in humble trust in Him. He will give you
all the love all the success that is best for you, and that is
all you want. The writer that I copied, I copied, I copied, I
live, the little voice, the little voice, that God gives to so many of us
brotherhood. I don't know how the world feels, no the little
the veil that all her heart. The writer in the copy, I copied, I
your mother and wants the boys to come to her. It will be
a relief. I want for you very kind father and the good name.
Mrs. Hale to be better, call Lizzie. I have a number of children
Lizzie has a new book with interest and I look for it. I
Lizzie has a new book, but I have not seen it from Lizzie. I
may be down, but I am not very far from Lizzie. I am
not see you. I want to go to Lizzie's house, day or two, if pos-
sible and to see Lizzie. I have no further pressing engage-
ments. Sorry you did not hear Dr. Hall in England. If I call on
you there I will try not to be "business" as you will have to
deal with me as all.

Your affectionate brother,
Frank Howard.

Enclosed by Frank Howard
Lizzie, Lizzie, Lizzie.

207 8/21/1875 *From:* Rowland [B.
Howard]
RBH-166 Augusta, Maine

To: Lizzie Patten Rogers

Source: Bowdoin

[Entire letter was typewritten]

Copy of a letter from our father (age 38) (40) Rowland Bailey Howard to Aunt Lizzie Patten Rogers (age 26) (29) referring to father's wedding day. [See Note 1]

Augusta, Maine. Aug. 21, 1875.

Dear Lizzie:-

No indeed, I do not forget it, this "wedding day"- The flutter of preparation - the poorly understood marriage vows and prayers - the presents in the little room. Poor little Lizzie who drew tears to her papa's eyes, by her weak back, dear little Hattie, - well and wondering Horace, pretty, dressed, roguish & merry. Poor Charles and his girl, busy mamma, interested papa; flushed, excited, thoughtful, deep-hearted Ella - a willing sacrifice; - awkward, green, bewildered bridegroom, - the refreshments, the two hacks, the mistakes, the cars, the Preble House, the boat, the hot night. Ella's loyal tears for the old home never to be her's again. It all comes back to me today. How one after the other they filled out God's plan of joy and sorrow; and have disappeared from all the eyes that loved them. They are not in the poor narrow yard of graves. They have gone on. They have more cause to weep over us than we over them. Oh, I do so long for a higher, clearer, more unselfish, heavenlier life. Helen's entire self-forgetfulness is a perpetual marvel and incentive, while it condemns me. She seems to live only for those whom she can help. She is as loyal to dear Ella as to me, and her parents, always writing me to be better and showing me how. You may never know her on earth, I am sure you will in heaven. I am a weak faithed, worrying and worrisome kind of a man, always wondering why God denies to me the love and appreciation that would make me a greater power in His Kingdom. I seldom rise to self-forgetfulness. I am sore over failures and elated over little things, but She writes; "You are one of God's elect and I want you to forget your own personal ambitions and go about your Master's business in humble trust in Him. He will give you all the love, all the success that is best for you, and that is all you want." She wrote thus when I told how I coveted the love, the influence, the Souls, that God gives to so many of my bretheren. I don't know how she would forgive me for lifting the veil thus off her heart. She writes in deep sympathy for your mother and wants the boys to come to her if that will be a relief. Thanks for your very kind letter and the good news. Mrs. Hale too is better, tell Dadie. I have a number of Princeton letters but no news that would interest you. I took tea at Dea. Pallets last evening. Mrs. H. had just returned from Topsham. I may be down Monday, but may not get away till next day. I may not see you. I want to go to Harpswell for a day or two if possible and to Old Orchard. I have no further preaching engagements. Sorry you did not hear Dr. Hall in Portland. If I call on you there I will try not to be "burdensome" as you will have no girl. With love to all

Your affectionate brother
Rowland.

Sat.Eve. I was glad to see Dadie. We may not be "home" till Tuesday noon.

Copied by F.G. Howard [Frank Gilman Howard, son of Rev. Rowland Bailey Howard]
Jan. I, 1905, New York.

[The following was handwritten on a small piece of paper]

RBH reminiscence of his wedding with Ella Patten in form of an 1875 letter written to Aunt Lizzie Patten and copied, with a comment, by Frank Howard.

<LMS> July 1967

[Envelope, No postmark]
Mrs. Ella Howard Smith
55 Morning St.
Portland,
Maine

[Note 1: RBH and Ella Patten were married Aug 14, 1860, but the ages weren't correct. RBH was born 10/17/1834 and Lizzie Patten Rogers was born 5/9/1843.]

[Note 2: The handwriting on the envelope was not written by the same hand as the note. Ella Howard Smith died Dec 13, 1964, age 89. If the date were 1962, she could have written the note and someone else gave her the letter and envelope.]

Farmington Dec 25 1826

Mr. B. B. Howard, Dear Sir
I herewith forward you a new
Policy to be exchanged this new
one which I consider better -
you will please forward to me
the old policy that I may return
it to the company when I make
my report. please forward the
amount of premium by P. Office
order and I will send you the
receipt.

all well
yours very truly
John Allen

Rev. R. B. Howard
Bible House
New York

208 12/25/1876 *From:* John Allen

To: Rev R.B. Howard

RBH-168

Farmington

Bible House
New York

Source: Bowdoin

Farmington Dec 25, 1876

Rev R.B. Howard
Dear Sir

I herewith forward you a new policy to be exchanged this new one which I consider better. You will please forward to me the old policy that I may return it to the company when I make my report. Please forward the amount of premium by P. Office order, and I will send you the receipt.

All Well.

Yours very truly
John Allen

[ENVELOPE]
Rev. RB Howard
Bible House
New York

Oak Knoll Denver

12 Nov 2 1878

My dear friend

What shall we
do to aid the Am.
Peace Society? I
cannot do much, but
I will be sure of 40
to raise \$1,000 by \$25
subscriptions, are there
not 20 friends of the
cause who will raise
another thousand by
\$50 pledges?

Thine always

John W. Whittier

[Faint, illegible handwriting on aged, wrinkled paper]

209 11/12/1878 *From:* John Wheltine

To: My dear frd [RB Howard]

RBH-169

Oak Knell Danvers

Source: Bowdoin

Oak Knell Danvers

12 Nov 1878

My dear frd

What shall be done to aid the Am Peace Society? I cannot do much, but I will be one of 40 to raise \$1,000 by \$25 subscriptions. Are there not 20 friends of the cause who will raise another thousand by \$50 pledges?

Thine always
John Wheltine

New Haven

Jan 28, 1879

Editors of the Advance in
N. York.

Gentlemen

My engagements
and occupations are such
compared with the time
that I am able to work,
that I am compelled to
decline all additional
occupations. My paper on
Action and Axioms is wholly
unfit for publication, and
if ready would not suit
a religious newspaper



Eastern Office of the
Advance,

60 Bible House,
Astor Place,
N. York.

on account of being too philo-
sophical for the mass of
readers.

Your friend & servant,
Theodore Roosevelt,

[Faint, illegible handwriting on the left page of the letter, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]



210 1/28/1879 *From:* Theodore Dhorlay

To: Editors of the Advance in
N. York

RBH-171

New Haven

co Bible House
Astor Place
N. York

Source: Bowdoin

New Haven
Jan 28 1879

Editors of the Advance in N. York

Gentlemen

My engagements and occupations are such compared with the time that I am able to work, that I am compelled to decline all additional occupation. My paper on <> and <> is wholly unfit for publication, and if ready would not suit a religious newspaper on account of being too philological for this <manner> of readers.

Your friend & servt
Theodore Dhorlay

[ENVELOPE]

Eastern Office of the Advance
co Bible House
Astor Place
N. York

[Postmark] Jan 28 11 AM NEW HAVEN CONN.

[Postmark] REC'D NEW YORK JAN 28 79 6 PM

Firhill

Old Aberdeen.

5. March 1879.

To the Editor of the Advance.

Dear Sir,

Can you find any use
for a story of 120 pages of
M.S. (size of enclosed.) It has
never yet been published in
England, but may be brought
out as one of a little series
of books, about next July.

It will be a simple story
suitable for young or homely
people. I should, in this
instance, be willing to take
a very small sum for it

- Say about £5.--- and the
MS should be in your hands
quite as soon - or even sooner
- ~~than~~^{as} in those of the London
publisher.

Trusting to your great
kindness for a speedy reply
I remain, always,

Yours faithfully

Isabella J. Mayo -

"Edward Garrett."

P. S. Please to note my
new address. -

Firhill

Old Aberdeen

Scotland

211 3/5/1879

From: Isabella F. Mayo
"Edward Garrett"

To: Editor of the Advance

RBH-172

Firhill
Old Aberdeen
Scotland

Source: Bowdoin

Firhill
Old Aberdeen
5 March 1879

To the Editor of the Advance

Dear Sir,

Can you find any use for a story of 120 pages of MS. (size of enclosed.) It has never yet been published in England, but may be brought out as one of a little series of books, about next July. It will be a simple story suitable for young or homely people. I should, in this instance, be willing to take a very small sum for it - say about £5 - and the MS should be in you hands quite as soon - or even sooner - as in those of the London publisher.

Trusting to your great kindness for a speedy reply I remain, always,

Yours faithfully
Isabella F. Mayo
"Edward Garrett"

P.S. Please to note my new address -
Firhill
Old Aberdeen
Scotland

[Note: Isabella Mayo was a Scottish novelist, who wrote under the pseudonym of Edward Garrett.]

might be a lost letter
or any similar mishap
with kind regards.

I remain

Yours faithfully
Isabella Fyvie Mayo

Firhill
Old Aberdeen.
27. May 1879.

To C. H. Howard. Esq.

Dear Sir,
Many thanks for
your note of April 15.
I shall be delighted to
see the Rev. Mr Howard
if he happens to come
so far North as this,
and as I am on the
direct route to the
"Queen's Highlands" and

all the favourite
Scottish scenery, I am
not altogether "out of
the way." I am quite
settled here for the
present - and probably
for some years to come,
having removed the
whole of my household
from London, nor do
I anticipate ever
paying a visit to the
South this year.

Has Mr. Marsh still
any connection with
the "Advance" - or is
he even in Chicago?
I never heard of him
after his arrival in
London on his way
back to America, about
three years ago. He
then promised us a
visit, which he never
paid, & we often
wondered whether there

212 5/27/1879 *From:* Isabella Fyvie Mayo *To:* C.H. Howard, Esq.

RBH-173

Firhill
Old Aberdeen

Source: Bowdoin

Firhill
Old Aberdeen
27 May 1879

To C.H. Howard, Esq. [Editor of the Advance]
Dear Sir,

Many thanks for your note of April 15. I shall be delighted to see the Rev. Mr Howard, if he happens to come so far North as this, and as I am on the direct route to the "Queen's Highlands" and all the favorite Scottish scenery, I am not altogether "out of the way". I am quite settled here for the present and probably for some years to come, having removed the whole of my household from London, nor do I anticipate even paying a visit to the South this year.

Has Mr. Marsh still any connection with the "Advance." - or is he even in Chicago? I never heard of him after his arrival in London on his way back to America, about three years ago. He then promised us a visit, which he never paid, & we often wondered whether there might be a lost letter or any similar mishap.

With kind regards, I remain

Yours faithfully
Isabella Fyvie Mayo

Mr R. B. Hemmel
 Farmington
 Maine
 U. S. A.



my Room

GRAND HÔTEL LOCARNO

Phil. O. & C. Cologne.
MENU

Looks like this is a menu that the yard is not
 known for a dinner.

Le jour du 23 juillet July 16.5.10.

1 Potage Nouilles au Parmesan ^{fish - like fish} ^{bon soup}

2 Poisson ^{Benche} Sauce d'anchois ^{and olog}

3 Relevés ^{Boeuf à la Napolitaine} ^{Sliced Beef}

4 Entrées ^{Gravande à la Turbise} ^{Beef d'auvergne}

5 Légumes ^{Haricots verts} ^{string beans}

6 Rôti ^{Oies à la broche} ^{chicken}

7 Entremets ^{Salade} ^{with coffee} ^{Ice cream}

8 ^{Pâtisseries} ^{fresh figs} ^{not good}

9 ^{Desserts divers} ^{Nice plums}

we have clean dishes very course no ice

I never change only they are served right. I think
 I never had
 of all at rooms
 notes.
 Copies in
 findings
 I have had
 since the time

NEW YORK
AUG 21
RAIL

GRAND HOTEL LOCARNO

MENU

There is a very fine picture
of our ~~the~~ Hotel
But the ground the
view across the
Lake is not given

213 7/23/1879 *From:* [RB Howard]

To: Mrs. R.B. Howard

RBH-175

Grand Hotel, Locarno,
Italy

Farmington
Maine
U.S.A.

Source: Bowdoin

[LETTERHEAD]

GRAND HOTEL LOCARNO

[PICTURE OF HOTEL]

Looks like this except that the yard is not mown for a lawn.

MENU [faint handwritten comments are included]

du 23 Juillet July 6 P.M.

Potage: Quenelles au Consomme - for soup fish - luke fish

Poisson: Tenchy Caung d'anchois -anchovy
Pommes - potatoes

Relevés: Boeuf a la Napolitain - sliced beef & macaroni

Entrees: Grenadine a la Canbry - veal & !! Don't know. Eats well.

Legumes: Haricots Verts - string beans only!

Roti: Oiel a la brochy - Chicken and duck

Salade: oily salad I eat neither.

Entremets: Glace moka - Coffee ice cream & cake

Patisserie: fresh figs. Not good. One apiece

Desserts divers: Nice plums

We had clean dishes every course. No ice. We never changed anything. Are served right through. Cannot "order" at all as done in hotels.

No pies or puddings.

This is a very fair picture of our Hotel. But the front view across the lake is not given.

[ENVELOPE]

Mrs. R.B. Howard

Farmington

Maine

U.S.A.

[Postmark] GRAND HOTEL LOCARNO 24 LUG 79

and last evening the
street were full of robed
priests. The beggars begin
now & are the worst of
mankind. The "shrines" ^{interest you} I counted 14
on the road leading up to
a College this morning. They
are white oval shape little
buildings [†] with images
pictures, crosses &c more
or less elaborate. They are
indeed little ^{resplendent}
chapels where the devotee
cross themselves & offer
prayer. They are often created
by those who make a vow
to do something for the Virgin
or some saint on account
of some delinquency or
laziness. This is really
Italy. the watering place for
Naples Rome & the great
cities South. The rich people
come to this hotel, which
is marble & stone throughout.

Lucerne Switzerland
July 24, 1879. 7-30 A.M.

Dear Sir

The sudden transition from
the cool at Aiola down the
Mountain to the Nation town in
(a Swiss Canton) is wonderful
and oppressive. We left Aiola
where I made you stand 11-30
A.M. The road led down the mt.
in a form as twisted as
a dough-nut. It was like
this for miles ³ and the
horses kept up a bush list.
Then we followed the valley
of the river ^(Ticino) till it
empties into this long
beautiful lake Maggiore
(Majora). Our ride was extremely
dusty - the white fine dust that
rises from macadamised roads.
For 15 miles to the R.R. We came
25 miles of the last part by
a slow - beautifully built
R.R. with lofty stations &
arrived here at 5 P.M.

It was completely white
with dust & I was glad to
get to my room in this
which Dr. Lornis says is
the most elegant hotel
in Europe - and take off one
undershirt, 1 pair drawers
& 1 pair socks & bath. We traveled
over the St. Gothard Pass from
where we left the steamer
at Inverness on Lake Lucerne
91 miles - 67 by carriage. We
spent one night as I
note you near the summit
of the Mt. which is 6900 ft.
Rigi, where it was so cold
is 5900. At Washington 6000.

There were miles of snow banks
on the St. Gothard road. You
see how sudden the change
of climate, soil, & everything.
We are now in a place
as warm as East Orange.
The Calathea, & many things
& beautiful shrubs & trees

are in bloom. The paper here
got to be quite large. The corn
is beginning to sprout. The
wheat is harvested & the
2^d crop of grass is just coming
on. I saw many silk farms
with large Wurzburg orchards.
The trees are kept cut down
near the trunk & fence out
from that point with tender
leaves to feed the silk worms.
After dinner I went out
& strolled through the streets
of this old town. A barber
threw me ~~at~~ very painfully
& spoutly - between sunset &
dusk with wax & light. I
found Kerosine in the shops.
He was old but agile. He
did not know how to put
on the soap - his razor was
dull & I had to hold my
head up right - I paid 5 cents.
Back on one of the Mts that
surround us are a number
of Catholic Colleges. Numeries

and spend August & Sept
as our N.Y. people go to
Cape May & Saratoga. The
heat is oppressive this morn.
& my head feels badly, but
I had a fair night's rest
& my bowels which troubled
me three days are getting
in order again. It was
positiveness. So I had no
excuse for drinking. Dr. Looms
lectured in the parlour on
the characteristics &
history of Italian painting
which we now will see
at Milan Venice Florence
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214 7/24/1879 *From:* Rowland [B.
Howard]

To: Dearest [Helen Graves
Howard]

RBH-174

Locarno Switzerland

Source: Bowdoin

Locarno Switzerland
July 24, 1879. 7.30 AM

Dearest,

The sudden transition from the cold at Ariola down the mountain to this Italian town (in a Swiss canton) is wonderful and oppressive. We left Ariola where I wrote you about 11-30 A.M. The road led down the mt. in a form as twisted as a dough-nut. It was like this for miles [diagram of the switchbacks] and the horses kept up a brisk trot. Then we followed the valley of the river Lecino (Lechino) till it empties into this long beautiful lake Maggiore (Majora).

Our ride was extremely dusty - the white fine dust that rises from macadamized roads - for 15 miles to the R.R. We came 25 miles of the last part by a slow beautifully built R.R. with lofty Stations & arrived here at <> 5 P.M. We were completely white with dust & I was glad to get to my room in this, which Dr Loomis says is the most elegant hotel in Europe, and take off one undershirt, 1 pr drawers & 1 pr socks & bathe.

We traveled over the St. Gothard Pass from where we left the Steamer at Fluelan on Lake Lucerne 91 miles - 67 by carriage. We spent one night as I wrote you near the Summit of the Mt. which is 6900 ft - Rigi, where it was so cold is 5900. Mt Washington 6000. There were miles of snow banks on the St. Gothard road. You see how sudden the change of climate, soil, & everything. We are now in a place as warm as East Orange. The catalpa, & many strong and beautiful shrubs & trees are in bloom. The grapes have got to be quite large. The corn is beginning to spindle. The wheat is harvested & the 2d crop of grass is just coming on. I saw many silk farms with large mulberry orchards. The trees are kept cut down near the trunk & branch out from that point with tender leaves to feed the silk worms.

After Dinner I went out & strolled through the streets of this old town. A barber shaved me very painfully & poorly - between sunset & dark without a light. I find Kerosene in the shops. He was old but agile. He did not know how to put on the soap - his razor was dull & I had to hold my head upright. I paid 8 cents. Back on one of the Mts that surround us are a number of Catholic Colleges, Monasteries and last evening the streets were full of robed priests. The beggars begin now & are the lowest of mankind.

The "shrines" would interest you. I counted 14 on the road leading up to a College this morning. They are white oval shape little buildings with images, pictures, crosses &c more or less elaborate. They are indeed little wayside chapels where the devout cross themselves or offer prayer. They are often erected by those who make a vow to do something for the Virgin or some saint, on account of some deliverance or forgiveness.

This is really Italy - the watering place for Naples, Rome & the great cities South. The rich people come to this hotel, which is marble & <chranghon> and spend August & July as our N.Y. people go to Cape May & Saratoga.

The heat is oppressive this morn. & my head feels badly, but I had a fair nights rest & my bowels which troubled me three days are getting in order again. It was <cositiveness>. So I had no excuse for drinking. Dr Loomis lectured in the parlor on the characteristics & history of Italian painting which we now will see at Milan, Venice, Florence, Naples & especially Rome. It was interesting & instructive.

I wish I could tell you all the little incidents, the "news" the glorious & some times depressing experiences of these crowded days. I have tried to pray upon my chapters this morn. for you all. But nobody needs prayer more than me. In the merry & free way of our intercourse in the carriages & cars I hear things that open my eyes to my faults - often spoken in jest of course. I have offended some by my abruptness & impatience, others by my opinions, others by my conversations on character duties &c & possibly others by my jokes trying to keep up & reply to the constant Ladies that I meet. But on the whole I think they do not dislike me.

Breakfast, 8-10 AM.

9. We must soon be off. Three fresh eggs, nice cold bread, 2 cups of hot tea have marked an entire change & an Italian gentleman who can speak good english has helped to make me happy, but I must say good bye.

Your Rowland