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Howard, Charles (Brother), 08/7/1858

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West Point, N. York

January 7th 1858

My dear Brother,

I received your letter written at Seeds depot, a few days ago and was glad to hear from you and from home. I trust you are all well still, and you and Dillie still enjoying yourselves reading Latin & Greek in the "north room".

Mother was away, had been to Milton, was at Livermore & caught in a snow storm? I suppose she is in good health & spirits from this. So you had the cars through to Milton and probably to Farmington. We are now in the midst of the January examination. I finished my sections day before yesterday and yesterday was officer of the day for the examination, and today have had no official duty to perform.

I thought I would write you or mother this morning but took up a new book "The History of Methodism". I began to read aloud and did not cease in time to commence my letter before dinner. This afternoon I have visited several Cadets to talk with them on the subject of religion. One said he would go to the prayer meeting, another said he would consult with his mother about being confirmed in the Church, another thanked me for reproving him for dissipation, another said his parents were both Christians, but he had lost his

own religious impressions. Our Cadets' prayer meeting on Thursday evening was full and much attention was given while I read to them from the 12th Chapter of St. Luke and afterwards I read an Article on Saving faith. I hope some of these young men may be induced to give up their sins & fly to the arms of God. We generally repeat the Lord's prayer together & then have one or two prayers. I spend the rest of the time (except that given to singing a hymn) in reading from some book. On Monday evening after the prayer meeting, I went to the little village a mile & a half below, and listened to an impressive discourse from the Rev Mr Hawley of Peaghtapoy - On Tuesday evening Lizzie & I went together. As we had snow the nights before, it was good sleighing; so I got an old horse & sleigh & we took a ride, and last night I went again. His first subject was "It is the finger of God" an acknowledgment of the Magician of Egypt. He applied it to the present & recent work of Grace in the Churches. The next subject "May stand ye here all the day idle?" Last night, his theme was, a betrayal of trust, referring for a text to Ahab's conduct in letting his prisoners go. He showed us how we had a great trust, in existence, in protection, in every species of duty, in the keeping or watching our souls &c. After the lecture we had a short prayer meeting - The people of the Church are quite tender in hearts. I hope before the weekends there will be numbers coming forth to join with the faithful. This community having so many of our Soldiers wives is closely connected in interests with us here. I hope

Some of the soldiers who go, will find the Saviour. On ^{evening} ~~day~~ Mr French lectured where I usually do, and in a very earnest & touching discourse laid before the people the New Birth, shewing them they must be born again, else they could not enter the Kingdom of Heaven. You spoke of yourself in connection with Boardman's work on the higher Christian^{ity}. I hope you will be led if you be not already to live day by day & hour by hour by faith in Christ. The twofold nature of the work of faith in sanctification - viz: to give up all unreservedly to Christ, and to receive all that Christ imparts - this is well explained and illustrated. Herein you must work to learn your necessities. Don't try to study the state of your feelings, but look beyond yourself to Christ. No matter about your peculiar emotions so long as you are ready & willing to do the will of your Lord & do not wish to withhold anything from his service.

Often you may find yourself in the dark, and as you have learned the glory & beauty of light, you can not be eager for its return - As you have known what it means by peace, joy & love & have been filled with them, the temporary privation may be needed to make you hunger & make you appreciate the tree that bears such sweet & delicious fruits.

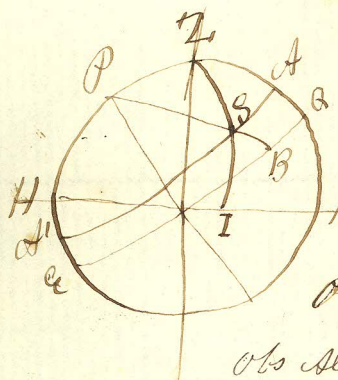
Tell Billie to watch with all his might against spiritual pride. He is much like me liable to love the praise of men above measure, more than the praise of God. The rebukes of men are good when we sin, but to hug to our bosoms the praise that belongs to Christ as though of ourselves we are who we are or do what we do - is as base as it is to put a false

note in circulation. Let Christ clothe us in his righteousness
and we will own it as his clothing - Lizzie is well -
We have concluded to be confirmed if it is the will of our
Lord, in the Episcopal Church. I doubt like to be on
the fence and on the whole think I have no serious
objection to unite with branch of the Church of God.
May Heaven grant us strength to live the life
of the professed followers of Jesus. I am exceedingly
anxious for father - I have laid him before the throne
of God day after day since my return - I don't know
why he is a sincere Christian at heart, but I do wish
he would come out & confess it as our Saviour requires.
Oh! I do hope he will not go to the judgment unprepared
and I want to know that he is a follower of Christ. It will
do me good. I will rejoice as long as I live, and ever I will
throughout eternity. Never neglect to put up a faithful prayer
for him morning & evening. I trust mother is happy in her
soul. Lizzie is well. Guy has a slight cold & has summed dull
today - but he is a stout, smart boy. Said all his letters today
one or two to me tonight, goes to the Sunday school, slides down
hill with paper etc. Grace is a little sunbeam, full of life & activity.
She calls almost everything by name in the way - she makes
wonderful transformations in the use of the consonants - as, Guy
is "Guj" - Grace is "Dacie", Jess is "Jeh", Susan is "Fudij" etc. - You should
see the little ones to enjoy them - How much I wish some of
you could come & see us. I should have proposed for you to come
this winter, but for teaching Nellie. I would have paid your
way for the pleasure & profit of your visit. Give my love to
mother, father & Nellie & all, I should like to hear all about Roland if

He has found Jesus in ordinary in God. Pray for him & talk with him Charles
I am to explain it to my letters

Prob. To determine the error of mean solar time since May 14, 1853.

Watch time of observation = $8^h 42^m$

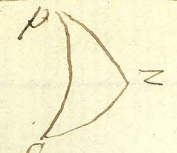


(of lower limb)

Double obs. Alt.	$84^\circ - 19'$	(1)
Index error	$6' - 45''$	(2)
Obs. Alt. l. l. =	$2) 84 - 25 - 45''$	(3)
Sem. diam. =	$42 - 12' - 52.5''$	(4)
Obs. Alt. Sun's centre =	$42 - 28 - 43.5''$	(5)
Mean Parallax in Alt =	$6'' - 25''$	(7)
Mean Refraction =	$42 - 28 - 49.75''$	(8)
True alt. Sun's center } =	$1 - 03.5''$	(9)
	$42 - 27 - 46.25''$	(10)
Zenith dist = $ZS =$	$47 - 32 - 13.75''$	(11)

hourly change in Dec + =	
$8-42$	$35'' . 69$ (13)
5	
$1^h - 42^m =$	1.7
	60.673
	$1 - 00'' . 673$

Greenwich Mer-noon May 14.	$8^h 42^m$	(12)
N. Dec. =	$18^\circ - 40' - 35'' . 4$	(13)
	$1' - 00'' . 67$	
True dec.	$18^\circ - 41' - 36'' . 07$	(14)
True Alt. D.	$71^\circ - 18' - 23'' . 927$	(15)
Comp. Lat. =	$48^\circ - 36' - 30''$	(16)



(17) $\sin \frac{1}{2} P = \sqrt{\frac{(\sin \frac{1}{2} S - pZ)(\sin \frac{1}{2} S - pS)}{\sin pZ \sin pS}}$	$\frac{1}{2} S = 83^\circ - 43' - 33'' . 63$	(18)
	$(\frac{1}{2} S - pZ) = 35^\circ - 7' - 3'' . 63$	(19)
	$(\frac{1}{2} S - pS) = 120 - 25' - 9'' . 81$	(20)
	$\log \sin (\frac{1}{2} S - pZ) = 9.759805$	(21)
(30) $\frac{12}{3 - 17 - 15}$	G. Eq. of time $3' - 53'' . 79$	(22)
(31) $\frac{8^h - 42 - 45}{5}$	h. change = $.005$ $3' - 53'' . 79$	(23)
(32) $1.771 +$	h. Eq. of time $3' - 53'' . 798$ $.005$ $.00855$	(24)
(Watch time) $8^h - 38^m - 57.2 - 4$	$8^h - 42 - 45$	(33)
Error =	$3^m - 08.8$	(34)
Watch is too fast by		(35)
Ans. $3^m - 08'' . 8$	$p = 49^\circ - 18' - 56'' . 15$	(27)
	$p = 3^h - 17^m - 15.7$	(28)

To Lieut J. F. Reynolds - Respectedly submitted.
 Assist. Prof. Philosophy }
 O. Howard
 Cadet U. S. M.

West Point N. Y.
May 14. 1853

C. O. Howard
Cadet U. S. M. A.

Solution of the Problem
to determine the error
of a mean solar time
piece.

1. Solar error
2. Refraction
3. Correction in alt.
4. Semi-diameter