

WAVERLY

P. del Rio, Cuba.
Fri. Apr. 28-'99.

My Dear Mother;

I rec'd. your short but welcome letter yesterday. I just came out of the hospital yesterday morning.

I will be on guard tomorrow.

I was at a funeral yesterday P. M. One of the fellow that enlisted about the same time I did, died. He had stomach trouble appendicitis I believe, but don't know whether I have spelled it right or not. There were two buried yesterday and two today. There was also a Cuban funeral in the Cemetery at the same time.

I will try and give you an idea of how a soldier is buried. Eight men were chosen from the Co. to fire the salute.

They went over to the hospital at 3.30 P.M. and the rest of the Co. off duty fell in under side arms, belt & bayonet. At the hospital we lined up and the coffin, an oak one, metal lined, was taken from a heavy pine box and with all heads uncovered the flag was put over it. Then the box was put in a wagon, and the coffin placed on top. Then we started for the cemetery about half a mile away, the eight men in the lead then a carriage with the Capt., a Lieut, and a priest from town, then the wagon with the corpse and behind, the Co. at the grave the coffin

was replaced in the box, then the priest read some scripture and prayed and threw some earth on top of the coffin. Then the box was closed and lowered into the grave and three volleys of blank cartridges fired and "taps" blown by the bugler. All this time everyone stood with hats off.

This concluded the ceremony and we marched back to camp.

At a Cuban burial there are about two dozen men present, never any women. The corpse is carried to the grave, generally about three feet deep, in a rude coffin, then taken out and put in the grave and covered up. The coffin is taken back. Sometimes two or three are put in one grave.

When I got back to the Co.
I found quite a number of
new faces. They do no duty
yet, have to drill three hours
a day while we drill forty five
minutes.

Frank was made corporal
yesterday. Alice Fisher sent me
a commencement program.

Is Phares Davis staying with
you? Well I must close
for this time. Love to all.

From your Loving Son,
Clarence Hodge
Write soon.

Business Letter

C. P. Yeager
at Co. B. 1st U. S. Inf.



Mrs. Alex Hodges,
Dunlapville,
Ind.



Pinar del Rio, Cuba.

Wed. May 17-1899.

My Dear Mother;

I rec'd, your letter yesterday and was very glad to hear from you. I have been feeling pretty well lately, have had a great deal of duty to do too. It is not so bad now as we do not have so much guard, &c.

I had malarial fever. One of the boys from my tent, (Alpha's,) is in the hospital now and is pretty sick, can't keep anything on his stomach. Another fellow in our tent got discharged last week and left me pen and ink, wash basin and several things. I bought his blankets pretty cheap, \$1.50

each, and they are nearly as good as new. I lay on one, have one over me, use one for a pillow and keep the other in my knapsack.

We have to pack knapsacks for inspection every Sat. so having four blankets I keep mine packed all the time.

I did not send you any money last month as I did not get it until I came out of the hospital and then thought I would wait until next pay day and send it all together. We are late about getting paid this month but I think it will be about Sat. or the first of next week, although some think we won't get paid at all this month. Were paid in gold ult.

Will send Viola a stool I got out on the Mt. a cartridge knife, and some Spanish coppers.

We are paid in U. S. Currency. One dollar of our money is equal to One dollar and twenty cents Spanish. When we first came it was a dollar and forty cents. Either kind of money buys anything. There are twenty and forty ct. pieces, or one and two pesetas. You see we can buy twenty cents worth of anything, hand them an American dollar and get a Cuban dollar change.

For the last two or three afternoons we could it raining and hear thunder in the mts. to the north but have not got any rain here yet, I think we will get some soon. They are getting the barracks in town fixed up pretty nice, I hope we will get moved in before it rains much.

I got a letter from Clara W. Smd. Have got four since Sat.

Had you plant many early potatoes?
Are you going to have some more
for you & through other friends?
C. J. H.

Haven't Davis' move on their
farm yet? I am glad to hear
that you expect a good fruit crop.
I can get lot of different kinds
here now, one that is called
something like mama'. They are
a little larger and more oblong
than a goose egg; are brown and
taste like pumpkin pie and
cost from two to five cents.

I am going to mail this letter
in town so tell me if you have
to pay extra postage. Have you
ever had to pay extra yet?

Well, I must close, with
love to all. From your son,

Clarence J. Hodge.

Write soon.
Will is having fine health.



Mrs. Anna Hodge,
Dunlapville,
Ind

Pinar del Rio, Cuba.
Oct. 17-1899

My Dear Mother;

I received your letter to day and will try to answer, although I don't expect I can write much.

Sorry to hear you had had the headache. I suppose Viola had the same. If you think she will stand it to go to school.

I got a letter from Uncle Wilson today, also.

He says Ward Hanson
has bought Chas. White's
land on the Powell place.
Do you know what he paid?

He also said Geo. and Em
were moving. I expect
they are glad to get settled
on a farm.

We were paid last Fri.
but I will not send any
home this time.

Frank promised to write
to some of us but we have
never heard a word from
him.

Did Mary answer

Will's letter? He said he didn't expect to get an answer and hadn't yet. He says he would like to know just what she thought when she got it.

O, yes, I got a letter the other day with some Latin in, (never mind who from) and would like to know what it means. I have a pretty good idea what it means but am not sure. Probably Viola can

Well, I must close for this soon to your loving son
Charles H.

Roscoe is in the hospital. He complains of his stomach, has no appetite.

4.

interpret. "Me milaspner, trae fide." "Me care amice."

They are going to begin pumping water in the big tank here this P. M. When it gets to working O. K. there will be very little work to do. It is a round tank twelve feet high and twenty in diameter. It is away up on a tower, - I don't know how high, but will have lots of force. Will is still here. Yes it is a great deal cooler. Cabbages are beginning to plant crops now. I see some corn about 4 inches high

Soldiers Letter.

E. C. Dorones
1st Lieut. 1st Regt.



and
Mrs. Alex Hodge,
Dunlapville,
Ind.

From Mrs. Clarence Hodge,



L S
L 816 *bb*

LIBERTY IND.
OCT 21 1895
P.M.

IND. 1895
OCT 21

L S *L S*

P.S. A paper copy of my letter has
not been made. I should like to
have paper, but I guess it would
not have made much difference if
I had destroyed them all. Some of

Wm. Leavenworth Ken

Aug. 18-1900.

My dear Mother; -

I rec'd.
your letter today but was
not expecting an answer
quite so soon, but I'm
not quite so far from home
now.

We got here about 8 o'clock
A.M. morning. (17th) I was
scarcely a bit tired for we
had good accommodations
on the train - sleeping berths, &c.

I have seen Frank several
times but have not talked
with him much yet. He has
to work in his office all day.
He told me he stopped off

at home for five days.

I did not think of trying to get a few days ^{paid} and don't know whether I could or not anyway. A Serjt. major has a better chance for those kind of things than a private, you know. I would liked to have stopped for a few days, very much and am sorry you were disappointed.

If I had thought of it in New York I might have gotten permission to stop off but we were nearly to Pittsburg before we knew whether we were to go through southern Ind. or by way of Chicago, then we were nearly to Columbus before I knew we were to go through Richmond.

at the first station in Ohio (Stubeur,) I had a telegram written to send to Aunt Emma but did not have time to get a blank so concluded to wait until we got to Columbus, when we got there I found out we were not to go through Cincinnati.

Well, I'll try and tell you a little more about our trips. I enjoyed it all very much, the part on water as much as the part on land.

The sea was very smooth and I did not get a bit sick although a few of the boys did. On the trip to Cuba, I did not see any of the fish, - because I didn't know where to look, I guess.

them being each part of the pack it
would perhaps be better to forget it
should have returned some of them
some time ago, but it is off late
now.

Coming to New York I saw
plenty of them. The flying
fish rise out of the water
and fly a little above the
surface. The farthest I
saw any of them fly, was
perhaps two hundred yards.

They aren't as large as
supposed, none of them
look to be over six inches
in length. They look like
hunting birds to me,
and rise out of the water
like a flock of quails ^{out} of
the grass.

I just barely got a glimpse
of the back of one shark.
Saw one whale, perhaps
thirty or forty feet long.

From your Loving Son,
Clarence J. Hodge,
Write soon. Co. "H." 7th U.S. Inf.

Saw him "blow" several times.

The funniest things
though are the porpoises.
They go in schools and I
saw two or three schools
that must have had a
hundred or more in them.

They are from two to six
or eight feet long, - the most
of them not over four.

You have noticed a dog
chasing a rabbit in high
grass or wheat. He will run
along a few yards and you
cant see him then he will
jump up in sight and down
again. That is the way the
porpoises do, swim along
in the water then jump

clear out and dive in again head first. You can see them a mile or more off.

If the boat comes within half a mile of a school of them they make a break for the prow of the boat like a lot of school boys running to see circus.

They jump over each other and play like so many boys, when they reach the boat it seems like they all want to see how close they can swim just ahead of the prow and some of their tails do touch the boat.

It is fun to stand on the prow, twenty feet above the water and watch them.

You can't see their fins shore yet they go through

the water like a bird through the air. They keep turning from one side to the other, seldom swimming with their back straight up.

I enjoyed that trip very much but I expect a trip as far as the Philippines would be very monotonous.

We have a nice post here but not quite what I expected.

It isn't all finished yet, I guess it will be one of the largest and finest when it is done. Ft. Thomas is nicer in every way but the shade trees. They are fine here. I was in Hearnworth a little while Fri. evening. It is about 3 1/2 miles from here. Electric cars run out

possible. Only have a little over
a year and three months more.
Although I would like to see you
all very much, at present, it will
not be very long to wait.

ten cts, one way or fifteen, both

It is a very nice little city.

The U. S. Penitentiary is
located here, some eight
or nine hundred prisoners.

Bo's B, C, and D are in San
Francisco and A at Little Rock

Ark. will go soon, also four
of the Bo's here. S Bo, was

left at Guayaquil on account
of yellow fever. We hear

the Bat. is to be the home
Bat. but I suppose most of

the men in it will be
transferred and sent to the

Phillipsburg. I'd like to go
but don't know whether I will

or not. Will write every few
days. Will probably write to

Cousin Mac. in a day or two. You
need not worry about me for I

am in the best of health and intend to keep that way if

FORT LEAVENWORTH
AUG
21
1930
KANS.



Mrs. Anna Hodge,
Quakerstown,
Ind.

Fort Leavenworth Kan.

Aug. 24-1905.

My Dear Mother; -

I have not heard from you but once but will write again.

We are to be paid this morning and will leave for San Francisco tomorrow.

Have most of our things packed up and on the load to the depot, now.

The boys are being all split up again, like Co. B, was in Cuba, but it don't happen to be my Co. this time. Most of the men in Co's, J. K. L and M are being transferred to the other Co's.

to go to the Phillisines.
Co's. C, F, G and H are to
each contain 125 men.

The former size was 106
so you see it will make a
much larger Co.

Will and I are to go but
Lew White and Frank
will remain here.

Frank has been so busy
that I haven't got to have
a good talk with him.

Yesterday Will and I went
through the prison, and also
in a small museum that
is here.

The prison is a very nice
one and the prisoners are
treated and fed well. The
warden that showed us
through, said he had
been in the army twelve

years and that the prisoners
were better fed than the
soldiers. They use 1000 lbs.
of flour per day in the
prison bakery.

I got a letter from Cousin
Joe, asking me to visit him
if I could and if I could not,
to let him know and he would
come up. I wrote and told
him I could not come as
we were to leave here Sat.

I looked for him up yester-
day but he didn't come.

Perhaps I shall either see
or hear from him today.

I have not heard from
Uncle Sam, yet, either.

We were all out of money
when we got here so I have
not enjoyed our short stay
as much as we might have.

It is most too far to walk
to town, 3 1/2 miles, and no money
to spend when we got there.

I was down twice though.
We had a canteen check and
could get everything we
needed in the canteen but
postage stamps and I had
plenty of them, you should
have seen Will and I eating
apple pie and milk. The canteen
gives a good lunch, cheap.

The canteen is in three parts,
one where you get beer, one
for all kinds of lunches and
one is a general store.

I must close address me
at, Clarence J. Hodge,
(add) Co. "H" 25th U. S. Inf.,
Follow Reg. San Francisco,
Cal.

P.S. Fri. P.M. Will add a few lines. Have just been paid. Just rec'd. your and Viola's letter, also one from Clara Fisher and her son.

W.S. says he would come to see me when he gets back from Manitoba. He says when I get through seeing all the other parts of the world to come to Iowa, Minn. and Dak. and he will show me the finest country the sun ever shone on.

Iud. is as good as any I have seen yet.

Will mailed a letter to his folks somewhere in Pa. I'll tell him to write again.

6.
He is sending a box of things home by express, this P. M.

I don't know just how long it takes to go to the Philippines but I think four or five weeks. It is nearly 10,000 miles.

Haven't heard from Chas. Brooks since we left Cuba. He had moved to San Lorenzo, 20 miles north of Santiago, then.

Expected a letter from Bessie a day or two ago. ~~The~~ Clara Fisher told me about her being sick, I am very sorry to hear it. I think she is a very nice girl.

I am rather surprized at Jennie's actions. It is pretty hard for me to think either of the girls would act in such a way. Again I will close.

Will write to Viola in Frisco,
Your Loving Son,
Clarena.



Mrs. Alex Hodge,
Quakerstown,
Ind.

Fort Leavenworth Kan.

Aug. 21 - 1900

My Dear Mother:-

I will write you a few lines to let you know that we are under orders to go to the Philippines and will not be here many more days.

My Battalion is to go after all but I am very glad of it for if the other one would have went, most of the men would have been transferred to it and have to go anyway. Part of the boys want to go and part don't. I am well pleased to think we are to go, for

we will get to see a great deal more of the world and that will give me the largest possible transportation when I am discharged.

We get four cents per mile from the place of our discharge to the place of enlistment, except on the water.

So if I am discharged in Manila, the Gov. pays my expenses by water to San Francisco. Then from there I get the four cents per mile which will be nearly one hundred dollars.

We were all examined by the Dr. yesterday to see that we were fit for foreign service.

He just glanced at me and marked me "O. K." and didn't even vaccinate me while he

did most of the others.

I think it is a good thing we are to go now ~~that~~ rather than to wait until next spring for you know we are already acclimated to the tropical country and you can see it would be better to go now than to spend the winter here before going and then having to become accustomed to the hot climate again.

It seems about as hot here now as it was in Cuba.

I am going to write to Mac this afternoon if I do not hear from him.

I am going to send you one package of letters that I have, the few others I can keep all right.

You and Viola may read

P. S. Address me here, the same
as before and add, - Follow Reg
Int.

them if you care to. It
might be a benefit for Viola
to read them.

Our written thoughts may be
kept and treasured by another
and one should be careful as
to the writing of them and not
be one thing today and another
tomorrow.

Our clothes got pretty much
mixed up on the trip and some
of the boys did not get near all
their things. I got all of mine
but a rubber coat.

I will ^{write} again before we leave
here and mother, dear, you must
not worry about me for I shall
get along all right and it isn't
long until I shall be home, again.
With love to all, from
Your Loving Son, Clarence.

FILED
AUG
20
1850
P.M.
PAID



Mrs. Anna Hodge,
Quakerstown,
Ind.

Transport Logan
Sept. 7-1900

My Dear Mother;

Will write
you a few lines to mail
at Honolulu. Will be there about
Sun. Well, our stay in the
U.S. did not last long, just
17 days from the time we
landed at New York until
we were on board in Frisco.

We have a good transport,
better than the "Crook", but
it is more crowded as there
is two battalions of the 1st
and one of the 2nd Inf. on
board, making about 1500
soldiers. There are several
lady nurses going over, too

We are having a fine trip, so far. The first day or two out was a little rough and a great many of the men fed the fish. The ones that are not sick have a great deal of fun at the expense of the ones that are.

Neither Will nor I have been sick yet but I expect we will be before we get across. The latter part of the trip is the roughest. Since Mon. we have not had any wind and none of the boys are losing their hats. There was quite a number went overboard coming from Cuba. There were a great many lost on the train also. In Kan., one evening just after we

had had supper one of our fellows had a large piece of bread that was left over, so he said he was going to hit some one with it. He leaned out of the window and the first man we came to was an old negro and the fellow leaned farther out, threw the bread, missed the negro and lost his hat. He concluded the negro had the joke on him after all.

I am rather anxious to get to Honolulu, as they say it is a fine city.

Two of the Bats were paid as they came on board but ours was not on account of us getting to Frisco just the day before.

I believe in one of your letters you advised me to send my valuables home. I have none except my watch and you couldn't get me to part with it. A fellow on the train asked me what I would take for it, I told him \$25. It has never stopped since I have had it, and keeps excellent time.

How did you hear that I was to be made a Lieut?

I'm not apt to be anything but a private.

What would you think of a machine for mixing and kneading bread? That is the way they do it on board. also have ice plant, electric light, and a machine that makes salt water, fresh.

Honolulu, Sun. P.M.

When I awoke this morning we were lying in the harbor here and by the time we had breakfast over was up by the wharf.

When I first came on deck I looked around for the city but about all I could see was a place that looked as if it might be as large as Swakietown.

I was rather disappointed for I had expected to see a fine city. Well, after breakfast I shaved and got ready to go ashore and about eight o'clock Will and I started out to see what we could see.

It was about one when we got back. The city turned out to be even finer than I had expected, after all.

It isn't more than a mile from the shore to the mts., which make a fine background.

The trees hide the town so that in coming in from the sea it doesn't look as if there was any there.

It is just full of beautiful plants, flowers and trees that grow in the tropical climate. It is the prettiest place I have ever seen, yet.

It is more Americanized than I had expected to find it. The streets are mostly American names, as are also most of the business signs.

There are a great many Chinese and Japanese here.

The population seems to be about evenly divided between them, the Americans and the natives. The latter are rather coarse featured but well built.

I seen the Queen's palace, where Queen Lili'oukalo'ani used to live. We got our dinner at a Chinese restaurant.

I got a Hawaiian quarter for a relic.

We are to be here about three days. There was some talk of us being paid and drawing clothes here but I don't know whether we will, or not, yet.

It is just a month ago this morning since we

(address) Co. "H," 1st U.S. Inf.,
via Manila,
San Francisco, P. I.

sailed out of Havana harbor.
It is about 2000 miles
from here to Frisco. Wouldn't
you think 6000 miles is
a pretty good distance to
travel in a month? We had
about ten days lay off all
together, though.

I believe it would be best
for me to deposit my money
with the paymaster for the
rest of the time. I am going
to deposit at least ten dollars
every month, probably more.

I think I can save \$150
by the time I am discharged.

Well, I must close. Write often.

From your Loving Son,
Clarence J. Hodge.

Mon. Morn. Well, I'll have to
write a few more lines.

Yesterday Afternoon Will^{and}
I took a notion we'd go to
church so we started out^{and}
found the M. E. Church but
there was no services until
evening. Then we went to
the park around the Queen's
Palace^{and} listened to a
concert given by the famous
Hawaiian band.

In the evening we start-
ed to church early. We had
to go by the Central Union
Church^{and} were invited to
the services by the S. S. Supt.

Told him we were on our
way to the other church, then

he asked us to look through
the Church. It is a fine Church
will seat about 700 in the
main chapel. They have
700 members and a S. S. of
600. The S. S. is held in three
different rooms. They have
C. S. every Sun. Eve. Also have
a kitchen, telephone, library
pastor's study, etc.

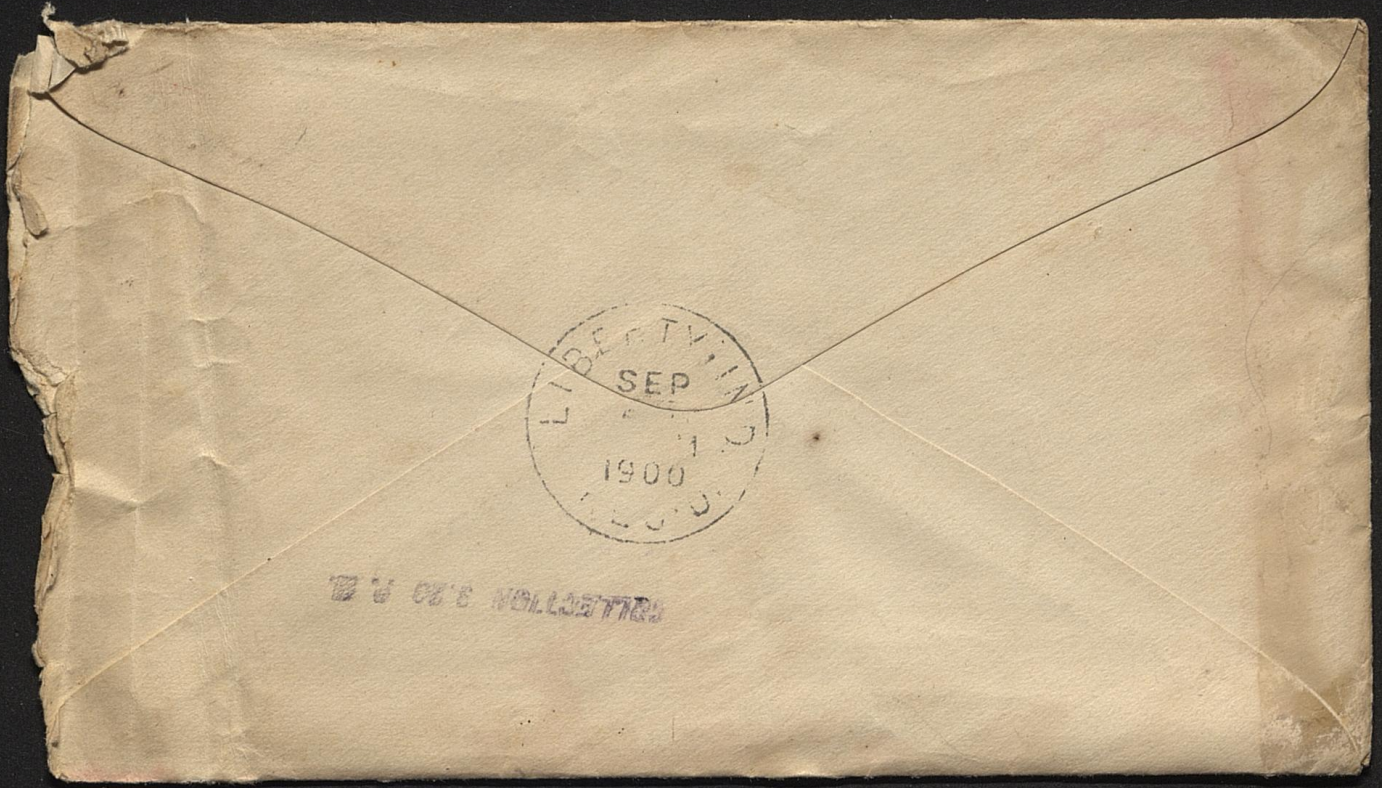
The M. E. Church is a small
one. We were at both B. L. and
preaching services. Enjoyed
both fine. It did me nearly
as much good as it would
to have been at Davenport.

The natives are going over
to the Mormons. The S. S. Supt.
said they tried to please every
one and did as the last man
told them. Well, I'll close
again. With love to all.
Clarence

C. J. Hodge
Co. H 1st U.S. Inf.



Mrs. Alex Hodge,
Quakerstown,
Ind.



POST OFFICE
SEP 1900
NEW YORK

COLLECTION 3 20 A 2