

Pinar del Rio, Cuba

Aug. 1 - 1900,

Dear Sister; -

Received your letter yesterday, was glad to hear from you.

I suppose you have got my letter by this time <sup>and</sup> probably think I am on the way to New York.

Well, the transports are miserably slow <sup>and</sup> I don't know just when we are to leave. One transport is in Havana now <sup>and</sup> the Cos. at Guanajay will probably leave this week while it is said that the transport that is to take us will not arrive 'till

the 12<sup>th</sup> inst. Until yesterday we expected to leave today.

I doubt whether we will be sent to China or not, now, but of course I can't tell.

If we don't go to China will be apt to go to the Philippines after being in the States a short time. I would like to go either place but would prefer China.

The boys are getting very anxious to move, and there is not an hour in the day but some one starts a rumble.

There has been only one case of yellow fever since we came to camp. We are not in very strict quarantine, can go any place except down in town.

Last Thurs, all our

clothing except an extra change was sent to Havana to be fumigated so as to avoid delay when the transport came in.

We will probably be in Camp near New York at short time or may go direct to Ft. Leavenworth, and remain there for a while.

We are having a very easy time here at camp. All I have done is one day in the kitchen. Have no drill.

The worst thing is that we have to wash our own clothes again. The creek is about a mile away. I have been over and took two baths and done one washing.

O, yes, I told mother some time ago that I would

New York, With Love to all, I will  
close, your Loving Brother,

Clarence J. Hodge

send some money home pay-  
day, for we were paid a couple  
of weeks ago but I delayed  
sending it on account of the  
rumor of leaving so that  
if we did move I would  
have a little money. Money  
comes in pretty hard out  
more as we don't usually  
live any too well there.

If I get a chance while we  
are in the States I want to  
have some work done on my  
teeth. If I don't, it will  
not be long before I will  
not have any left.

I will probably not write  
any more until we get in the  
States unless we are here  
longer than we now expect. Will  
write to Viola as soon as we get to

Soldier's Letter,  
C. J. Hodges,  
Co. H, 117th Inf.



Miss Clara Hodges  
Quakerstown,  
Ind.

Guinan, Samar, P.I.  
Feb. 19-'01.

Dear Sister;

Your letter of Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> received today. You do not say when you have received any letters from me. The last one from mother said she had got me from but did not say where I wrote it at or give the date.

You get my letters twice a month don't you? I write every time we have a chance to send mail away. The reason I thought you never got the letter I wrote from Marinduque Is. was that I told mother that Will and I were thinking of staying over here for a while after we

were discharged to work for the Government and asked what she thought of the plan, but she said nothing about it in her letter. We can make good wages, from \$40 to \$50 per month as teamsters and perhaps we could get a job at rough carpenter work at from \$60 to \$75 per month. There will soon be lots of work to be done over here as there will be barracks to be built all over the islands as soon as things get a little settled.

Next fall there is to be Three Million spent in improvements around Manila. Of course we will have to be in good health if we stay. I think it is the best thing I could do, - a great deal better than

I could do in Ind.

The boys in the Co. sent to Manila for base-balls and they came on the boat today, and we had a game this P.M.

The natives in Salcedo sent in word last Fri. that there was about four hundred insurgents there looting the town, so Co. "G" started for there that evening about dusk, but when they got there all the people had left. Sat. I was one of a part sent to Mercedez, half way to Salcedo to stay there until we heard from Co. "G" as they were to send us word of how they found the town and to give them assistance if needed. We got there at 9 A.M. and waited until 7 P.M. and had received no word

so returned and another party  
went out the next morning.  
All returned about noon.

We have since heard that  
the town was burned.

While laying around Sun,  
and waiting word from "G", Co.,  
we got to jumping and as a  
result I have been so sore  
the last two days, I have to  
go down stairs side ways.

The people here in town have  
been pretty much scared for  
fear the insurgents would  
come in here, but there is no  
danger of that, they are not  
anxious to get that close to us.

I wish we could get within  
range of them once.



I have been out sailing several times. Some of the boys bought a large native dug-out canoe and have a sail. It is fine to go out when there is a nice breeze, but we nearly always have to ~~so~~ paddle part of the way back. Went out one day and coming back got to splashing water on each other until we were completely soaked and the boat got full of water and sank. It was about waist deep but we had to make a good half mile to shore to dump the water out.

I did not know for sure but had guessed from the way you had wrote before that you was one of the Church Stewards.

Howard is doing fine. I can remember when you and I used to write to Uncle Will when we were only a little older than he. Does Clara graduate this year? I don't suppose there will be many graduates in Liberty Tp. this year.

I rec'd. another letter from Bessie. She is preparing to finish her High School this year.

Well, I will close and write a few lines to Howard.

Write often to,

Your Loving Brother,  
Clarence J. Hodge

Co. "H", 7<sup>th</sup> U.S. Inf.

Manila, P. I.

Dear Brother Howard,

I was surprised to get a letter from you but was glad to get it. You are getting along nicely at school. You will soon be in the second reader. Does Cypha ever have to punish you? I expect it is pretty bad weather for you to go now isn't it? Does papa take you when it rains?

I don't think many of the little boys over here know what it is to go to school and learn.

Neither do they play rabbit or tag. They have some sort of a game off with pennies but I don't know the name of it.

I just learned to count ten in the native language last Sun.

When I get home I'll learn you to count in it and also Spanish.

Would you like to learn to speak  
Spanish?

You must write again when ever  
Viola or mamma writes.

From Your Brother,  
Clarence

B

S

away? I don't intend to work out on a farm half the year for \$17 or \$18 per month. I can make more money than that by staying in the army. When I am out I will have between a little over a hundred dollars. What I want is to come home with, at least Five Hundred, and more if possible, then I shall have something to start on. I want to get a home of my own and get settled down sometime and the sooner I can do so the better.

Of course I am not going to ruin my health over here for the sake of making a little money, but I don't think there will be the least danger of that.

I think you could wait a year  
or so longer to see me if you  
could just see things the way  
I do.

I haven't heard from Will but  
once but the boat will be going  
from here to W'dgia before  
long and I will hear from him  
again.

So you are talking of going  
south. I don't expect you are  
talking very seriously. Just wait  
until I come back then I'll  
take the farm and you can go  
south what sta part are you  
going to, Miss?

Well, I must close.

From Your Loving Son,

Clarence J. Hodge

Co. "H," 7<sup>th</sup> U.S. Inf.,

Manila, P. I.

Love to all.

P. S. Mar. 3. A boat came  
in yesterday with orders for  
Co. "G" to go to another town  
north of Cathalogan. That  
will leave "K." Co. here alone.  
They leave today or tomorrow.

We are very lucky that we did  
not have to move. The 29<sup>th</sup>  
Vol. are going home soon and  
they are sending Co's of the 7<sup>25</sup>  
around to the different towns  
to relieve them. I don't know  
whether Will will have to move  
or not. Headquarters will go  
back to Cathalogan.

Tom Brown will be home  
by the 1<sup>st</sup> of July.

Clarence

Dear Brother, received  
I received your letter of Feb-  
19.

our school

our school is out.

I am glad that school is out.

I think Clara done the best  
at the commencement.



*to F. Hodge,  
Care of "The Inf."*

TACLOBAN  
MAR  
9 5 AM  
1901  
P. I.



*Mrs. Anna Hodge,  
Quakerstown,  
Union Co. Ind.*

