

he followed the snow down  
then after dawn, was the way  
he happened on their premises  
Billie and Archie both told  
the fact that he ought  
not to have done it, I believe  
Brother Cain, the Council of  
the capture if he takes care  
of him self, but it will grow  
on him if neglected. Carl is  
not very well. The Committee see  
might Thursday night, he strain  
head and tries to sleep.  
And I am sure that he is best  
me. I am not close for I will try  
to get up early. Hope this will  
find you well and happy  
and that I may hear from  
you soon. I am as ever your  
loving Mother

Columbus Ind March 24<sup>th</sup> 1876

Dear Son

I know your letter  
and I am glad to hear  
of the success of your  
or I would have tried to write  
although I still feel the  
effects of the cold, but do  
not fear any serious result  
from it, only inconvenience  
it does not hinder me from  
using my hand, but when  
I hold my pen or do work  
a needle, or in using the  
shears, my hand is sore  
and that is the reason I  
do not write as often  
I believe winter has gone  
and I am glad of it.

This was our first spring day. The children have gone to  
church to night I was there this morning. And after dinner  
Brookie took me on to Bill Wagners. He told me this  
morning that Mrs Wagner was sick. I found her up but she  
looks very bad I think it was only a severe attack of  
the grip. They was so glad to see us. And she send  
a kind remembrance to you. Bill says tell you not  
come home and forget him. Your father was pleased with  
the map. Your picture does not please me as well as  
the one you had taken with the one last year back  
for it had the expression of the little boy that looked  
up in my face with such loving trust and tenderness  
and this is a man's picture. And I will swear that it is  
the face and form of the same man as the one that  
but some how another. I wish you could always be boys  
I have not seen any of Long's folks for some time. But  
I fear John will soon go through another year. And I  
am sorry for his sake. Carl and Brook has been very  
indignant at Mr Archie McEwen. He shot Inigo but it  
did not kill him we thought he would die for several days

you said, I knew you  
had obtained the hatchet  
but was in doubt as  
to whether you had driven  
any nails with it or not.

Mr. Clay says, however,  
that Miss Laura Pepper can  
drive nails quite well.

Without asking, "Is that  
so?" - that pet question  
that naturally makes the  
person to whom it is asked  
feel that his veracity had  
been doubted - I will presume  
that the house had been  
made secure against thieves.

The conditions were, on  
the day of the departure of the

Camp of U. S. Troops, Tampa, Florida,  
May 5th, 1875.

My dear Miss Pepper:-

Your welcome letter  
of the first instant was  
received in due time.

In connection with  
the remarks, made by you  
in your previous letter,  
relative to the precautions  
you had taken to prevent  
theft, I will say that  
Capt. Mansur, in conversation  
with Capt. Chubb, said:-  
"My wife writes that she  
had seen the Misses Pepper  
nailing the entrance to  
their house. From what

regiment from Columbus Barracks, very unfavorable for  
good photography. I am sorry your pictures were not  
good for, as you say, it may be that the last formation  
of this regiment at that place occurred there.  
I still think the chances for our return there are, I think,  
very good indeed. All of the other regiments in the

east have been at their last stations longer than has  
the 17th, so that therefore it would be manifestly unjust  
to move us without moving all of the others and then  
I believe they will not do.

You have an unusually pleasant view of the  
kind of time we are having when you say "we seem  
to be having a better time than those left behind."

To mention the disagreeable features of camp life  
at this place is, to say the least, ~~very~~ <sup>very</sup> formulating  
unpleasant reading matter, and to say the time since  
our departure is seemingly of many times longer duration  
than it actually is would be merely telling the truth  
but would be suggestive of the fact that we should be  
more busily engaged. You see, I could have mentioned

I understand, developed -  
case of measles while enroute  
from Columbus Barracks

You no doubt remember  
how you, Miss Bonnell and  
Miss O'Brien spoke of  
Mrs. Pope one day as she  
passed all of you on the  
walk in front of Mr. Clapp's  
quarters - the day that I  
saw she seemed to be such a  
charming lady. Although  
it was in fact a surprise  
to me, I am real glad to  
know that you and she  
are good - this respective I add -  
friends.

I have not seen her since

- 2 -

not in such a general  
way, but in detail, the  
unpleasant side. Every one  
wishes to look at the  
matter in the brightest  
possible way and soon to  
become inured to camp  
life in this latitude.

As every one here is, or  
should be, fairly well reconciled,  
I simply tried to present  
our pleasantest aspect of  
our present camp life.

Mrs. Pope, of whom, perhaps  
I should hardly say to my  
surprise, you speak as  
"your friend", is now in  
Yampa with her child, who,

her arrival here but will likely see her soon.

As stated in my previous letter, a camera would be a fine thing here, but I am forced to do the next best thing, that is, sketches of which I do quite a good deal as I find it a pleasant way of spending the time.

I sent you several sketches but, unless your mail was forwarded from Columbus Barracks, I doubt if any reached you before the date of your last letter.

As evidence of Mike's remarkable memory, you no doubt cite, as a proof, his usual greeting which is sure to be accompanied with a bite that is severe or mild depending of course upon whether his recollection of his friend is distinct or faint.

In all probability he attempted to bite you, hence his recollection. Is that so? Did you get a good picture of him?

From all reports, it seems that Columbus Barracks is pretty desolate. There is quite a large militia camp, near Bullitt Park, Columbus

at a place like Colo. Bk.  
Mr. Clay and I have each  
invested in a fountain pen  
This with an improvised  
table consisting of a board  
resting on the legs makes  
quite a luxurious camp  
outfit for writing.

I might keep on with  
this letter until it was so  
long as to be tiresome so that,  
after I now ask a kind  
remembrance to Mrs. Papps  
and all other members of your  
family, you see I am  
considerate enough of your  
feelings. <sup>to stop</sup>  
Very sincerely,  
J. Smith.

P.S. I trust, I meant to say this in my letter,  
I have not time to get any one to drink  
the letter, not staying to get any one to drink

Dr. Geo. Egan, <sup>today</sup> left  
Port Tampa, distant from  
here about nine miles, for  
some place in West Virginia.

I did not get to see him  
but Mr. Clay did, I think.

One of the pleasantest  
things about this camp  
is that it enables the  
officers to renew many old  
and pleasant acquaintances.

The character of the  
country here is such that, in  
view of our probable move to  
Cuba at some future date, we  
can and do have some  
very interesting drills, drills  
such as we can not have

Miss Lync S. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky.



FORT, K  
F 118

RT,  
1898

give us detailed instructions regarding our embarkation for Cuba when, much to our surprise and chagrin, the Colonel (or rather, to honor him in accordance with his present volunteer rank, I should say, "General") informed us that we had been assembled for the purpose of allowing some lady, whose name I do not now recall, to take our picture — but to return to my original, and now, due to the excitement, <sup>incident</sup> to Officer's call, partly forgotten, statement, it is probable that I intended to say that the troops here have no more definite knowledge about a ~~re-embarkation~~ for Cuba than they have ever had.

Camp of U. S. Troops, Tampa, Florida,  
May 12th., 1898.

My dear Miss Pepper:-

Your welcome letter of the 8th. instant came in due time.

If the predictions of the so-called leading newspapers had proven correct, we would now be somewhere in Cuba but you see we are yet here and, I may say, — at this point, Officer's call sounded, whereupon the officers assembled at regimental headquarters, thinking that the supposedly unreliable bulletins, that had been posted in camp for the past several days had at last proven to be the truth, and that the Colonel would immediately

I tell it concisely and in general terms, all, so far as discipline, efficiency and equipment are concerned, are well prepared, the more adventuresome - including those who do not give the subject any serious reflection - are anxious, and I think that everyone will, when duty calls, be willing to go to Cuba. Such are the feelings in the camp of regular troops now at this place.

I am quite glad that you were pleased with the sketches recently sent you. I sent me, a day or so ago,

of a so-called "Lumber" ship that is now forwarded off "Ballast Point" about five miles from San Juan.

There are a number of views here that, although perhaps not so valuable from an artistic standpoint, are nevertheless typical of the locality and of our present life and for this, and the fact that it affords a pleasant means of using time that otherwise might seem dull, I will continue to make these sketches.

"General" Peláez gave me a list of the articles in a "water color outfit". I bought everything but the paint and paper, and as the latter could not be obtained <sup>here</sup>, it was necessary, due to some

It is to be hoped that the person whom you request to carry such a drink will be fortunate enough to have the dictates of your own conscience prompt you - to be this brought about by nothing more than the somewhat dangerous looking glass of molten metal in a steel works - to cause the imputation of blame to rest upon your own shoulders. His, to talk more frankly, is but a delicate way of saying <sup>for you</sup> to be sure to admit that you put in the salt.

If, as you say, the day had perfect and you gave the proper exposure, it is rather difficult to tell why the picture

- 2 -  
extent due to the fact that I had never undertaken anything of the kind, to abandon the idea.

Mrs. Mann, as far as I know, did not say that you nailed doors, but as I used the word entrance in my letter, it is only right that I say this much for her and then when you offer her, or rather pass for, and have some one carry to; her, a drink that she naturally will suppose nice and wholesome, it will prove less salty than you otherwise would have prepared it.

of Mike was not good. Perhaps, and even a suggestion  
might in this case be offered with propriety, you did not take  
the slide from the holder. I have known this, and even  
things as taking two pictures on one plate, to happen. As  
far as this is concerned I know you will not say, "Is that so?"  
I will be glad to get those pictures of Gal taken when  
you were riding. You said you were going to ride a very  
gentle horse. A beginner can not get one too gentle.

I trust that Susan is rid of, and that both you and  
Mike (nothing meant by the classification of you <sup>and the monkey</sup>) have  
escaped the whooping cough.

There are neither spies nor poisoned wells in Tampa.  
You suggest a theoretical, but hardly, a plausible, means of  
avoiding poisoned well water. Some of the soldiers however, followed  
this plan for several days after say day.

Supplies are received here daily and everything here has  
assumed quite a martial appearance.

I will remember you to Mrs. Pope as soon as I see her.  
Accept my best wishes and give my kindest remembrance  
to all of your family, Believe me ever so sincerely,  
J. L. Smith

MAILED  
MAY 13  
2 30 PM  
98

Miss Lync S. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky.

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ANK. CRT, Ky  
45 1898

ANK  
MAY 14 3

mit-your promotion to take  
you from us. We can't spare  
you. You and Billy must  
look out for each other. Have  
you met any pretty Lamp  
girl whose bewitching eyes  
can cause you heart-  
strings to flutter more rap-  
idly than those from  
"Old Paint"? In case  
you should "drop her a line",  
remember me to her. Don't  
do you spend your idle  
moments? Are you in  
Billy Rogers' Battalion  
and is he in as good health  
as he would have me think?  
I might turn this into an  
interrogation point and ask

1998  
Hiroca.

Arms.

M  
May 13.

Dear Mr. Smith, -

We are just  
in receipt of telegrams an-  
nouncing Sampson's four-  
barrelled of San Juan.  
The issue will be awaited  
with intense interest  
although the reports are  
favorable to Uncle Sam;  
still, the Armada is  
yet to be encountered.  
A coherent letter is almost  
an impossibility as my  
thoughts constantly revert to



the face, but, that it was a struggle, was  
apparent. I shall write her in a few days.  
Have you any message you would wish me  
to convey? That it would prove acceptable  
goes without saying. Now then we put  
to me the following question after you  
left: "Do you think?" "Very depressing and  
— and engaged: Her depression & the  
spirits gave rise to the inquiry. She  
is a mighty sweet girl, and I trust the  
above may be answered affirmatively  
in the near future. You must not be

all this unnecessary out-  
ery. I read no sensational  
reports, only copywrought  
dispatches from James Gor-  
don Bennett and Richard  
Harding Davis.

I enjoyed the letter you  
kindly sent me, as well  
as the accompanying sketch,  
which was a very good like-  
ness of Billy. Why did you  
not crowd her one of the  
worthy artist? I had several  
brilliant visits from the pretty  
girl of number 19 before she  
left the Garrison. She tried  
to cook the thing bravely in

you are infinity of questions, but - I trust  
you will, with your usual sagacity, antic-  
ipate them, and favor me with another  
letter. My love to Billy. With kindest  
remembrances to yourself and a fervent -  
God Bless you for both.

Sincerely,

Your Friend  
Wm Browning Rogers.

WINONA, MINN.  
MAY 13  
9 PM  
98

Lieut. Thomas A. Smith

17<sup>th</sup> U. S. Infantry.

Camp Regular Troops U.S.A.

Tampa,

Florida



18-5

Misses but strong

Bound in one month's rest

any we

of - and in the

Recd - 1/1/5

A letter from

John

Recd - 1/1/5

Mary

John

better print with ordinary  
paper that is toned with  
the gold bath alone.

The fact that the  
photographs were taken on  
Sunday may have had something  
to do with it. You intimated  
that one Sunday after I  
had taken some.

It is well that you  
explained that your description  
of the weather conditions  
when your camera fell  
from the stone wall was  
somewhat exaggerated, otherwise  
it would have been more of  
a surprise to me that your  
camera, instead of not being  
broken by the fall, had not

Camp of 17th Infantry, Tampa, Florida,  
May 22nd, 1898.

My dear Miss Pepper:-

Your welcome letter of  
the 17th instant, also photographs  
sent same date, came yesterday.

You seem to think the  
photographs are not good, but I  
do not agree with you. The  
ravine, as compared with an  
ordinary landscape, is dark and  
with comparatively little  
contrast so that the light  
must be unusually good to  
get a picture that will  
compare in beauty with  
the ravine itself. Possibly  
for you can, with the negatives  
you already have, get a

been swept away in a mountain torrent.

Is it your own idea - that of using a combined bath to tone "Aristo Platino" prints?

In the next mail, I will send you a sketch of an alligator den in a cypress swamp located about three miles northwest of our camp. Lieut. Michie, Lieut. Reeves and I went there early yesterday morning and did not return until afternoon. The snake seen (rather his supposed likeness) in the foreground is a water moccasin that was discovered by Lt. Michie under the log (seen on the left of the sketch) and shot by Lt. Reeves, both of whom carried the snake over near me and posed it for me to sketch. The snake was only about five feet long, although compared with the trees it looks large. The bottle shaped trees you see are cypress trees and are small.

I could not see the sky, but being on the edge of the swamp, could see some light ~~the~~ between the trees. Without this explanation, the sketch might look like an illustration for a Snake Story. The 17th has extended congratulations to our new Lieutenant <sup>1st Lieut. G. L. Lay</sup> and kindest remembrances of usual  
Very sincerely,  
J. L. Smith.



Miss Lyne S. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky.



PORT, KY  
MAY 5 P.M. 1838



mind that I have been here but a little more than five weeks, that my travels on the island have been either in Manila or within a radius of from eight to ten miles from Manila and that I am going to tell you how things appear to me and not how they are reported to be.

Many first impressions of the place are now more or less forgotten by us, and they contain a record of sights, customs of the people etc that are radically different from those of our own

On the "Pipe Line" road,  
Deposito,  
Near Manila, P.I.,  
May 21st, 1899.

My dear Mrs. Pepper:-

In my daily letters to our (yours and my) darling girl, I have unconsciously forgotten to say much that would give you any good ideas about this, in many ways, lonely island.

It has been described by quite a number of people any one of whom no doubt has described it better than I would attempt so that, in reading what I say, keep constantly in

country.

Upon arrival in Manila harbor the first ideas of the inhabitants, obtained generally from the "bon-boats" that swarm around an in-coming vessel, were not greatly different from those we obtained, under like conditions, at Port Said, Colombo, and Singapore.

The same kind of dark-skinned natives, excepting that those at Manila had, in some few cases, features not unlike those of our own negro, and, to me (and I can safely say to Pinnie also) the same apparently unintelligible chatter, — were seen and heard at in ports recently visited by our vessel.

The large casco boats in use in the harbor were somewhat interesting at first inasmuch as, we, having read various articles about Manila, had, from these boats heavily laden with various stores and manned altogether by natives, some means of comparing the actual sight of the harbor and of the Pasig river with our, in some

definite plan; then further  
conceive all of the buildings  
shifted around some  
common center but in  
such a manner as to have  
the streets present a  
zig-zag appearance - the  
zigs (to coin some new word)  
being straight for one half  
block and the zags (permitting  
another coining) straight  
for a whole block and then  
vice-versa or more properly  
speaking without any rule  
at all - then with the  
addition of Chinamen  
Philippinos and other foreigners

- 2 -  
instances, quite inaccurate  
ideas of what we thought  
appearances would be.

Some parts of Manila  
are prettier than any  
descriptions I have read  
would lead to believe.  
The city is divided into  
the new city and the old, or,  
as it is generally called, the  
walled city.

The latter had very  
narrow streets, old buildings  
and on every side presents  
a quite foreign aspect.  
Conceive a city with narrow  
streets but built on some

walking along the sidewalks, you get an idea of how some parts of the old city appear to me.

These are but local defects however but Manila in the whole has something about it that looks foreign wherever your eyes rest.

The appearance of things in general in Manila only emphasize (mind that I speak for myself only) the fact I am a long way from home.

If one would try to imagine that just such buildings as are here would be the kind that Americans will erect for their own comfort, it should, (my opinion only) be further imagined that building materials and designs will be scarce.

The tile or nipa roof <sup>of</sup> the shell windows are seen in every house. Blue seems to be the predominant color used in painting the houses. Frequently no paint at all is used.

will take a number of steps alternately to the right and left rather than one forward. I have only heard this.

Each buffalo is worked in a large clumsy looking, and low-wheeled, cart.

Except under favorable conditions their average gait is not more than one mile per hour.

On ordinary roads each caribou can pull about a thousand pounds.

They are driven, each by a Chinaman or a Philippino, on all the streets of Manila and roads of surrounding country, so

-3-

The animals used in transportation of all kinds are quite small ponies (the largest horses that the island affords) and the caribou or water buffalo.

The latter are proverbially slow, so slow indeed that I actually can not recall any one of our domestic animals with whose gait I can compare that of the caribou.

It is said of one of the caribou in use in one of the camps of the seventeenth that if halted and you again attempt to start it that it

that after ~~after~~ a few weeks residence here they  
are no longer a novel sight.

The ponies are seldom used for draught purposes  
(there is an exception though in that they are used in  
the street-cars of Manila) and are worked generally in  
teams in a sort of vehicle much resembling our  
landaus or else singly in a quiley (spelling not  
vouched for but believed to be correct. Pronunciation -

Keel' an. Description: Ask my blessed darling  
Pinnie and she can tell you all about them - even  
as to correct spelling and pronunciation.)

I had expected - merely things because I saw so  
many in use in Singapore - there would be a great  
many Gmirickashaus in use here but there are none  
at all. The more I look at the chianaman or the native

women and children and in  
some <sup>few</sup> instances by men  
who have been given special  
permission by the Commanding  
General of our forces.

What little is said to  
us by the natives who thus  
cross our lines seems to  
be said with a sort of  
feeling (and they can not  
help but show it) that they  
do not care in particular  
for us but that they must  
pretend to evince a friendly  
spirit.

No difference what the time  
of day their usual salutation  
is "Good morning! How are

-4-

here the more do I  
dislike their appearance  
and feel, just as my  
precious darling girl  
expressed herself, that I  
do not want them around  
me even in the capacity  
of servants.

I do dislike a cheat  
or a dishonest man of any  
sort and I am thoroughly  
satisfied that the average  
native here is this kind  
of a fellow.

Some traffic is carried on  
between the insurgent lines  
and Manila by native messengers

in particular in the low places.

There are various other tropical trees here but not to such an extent as I had anticipated.

The soil, trees, vegetation of all kinds, horses, caribous, in fact all the birds and animals — everything has a foreign look to me enough to make me feel he is a sort of an intruder.

As to the desirability of Manila as a place of residence, I see nothing in its favor except the fact that there is now a temporary matter in

-5-

Many things can be said in their favor but the subject is so inexhaustible that I can only make mere mention of it.

The country here is in no way similar to our own nor is it very much like that part of Cuba that we visited.

It is slightly undulating near Manila — the cleared places consisting, for the most part, of rice paddies that in the distance look like so many steps.

Bamboo is seen growing on both high and low ground but



its favor, namely the absence of local political strife.  
The food, the hotels and the servants were greatly  
misrepresented to me.

To ladies in particular, leaving her meant now  
almost an exposure to danger - and certainly a submission  
to many discomforts.

In spite of all this that precious darling  
girl (7 years and mine) wanted to remain with me if  
possible but returned when she saw it was her duty to  
do so.

While I am unable to express to you how I miss  
her, I, at the same time, can not begin to tell how  
thankful I am to know she is out of harm's way  
and does not have to submit to such discomforts, even  
for instance a Philippine food.

The trouble here has for the most part occurred  
since our departure from the United States. Prior to  
our departure, we believed, and the war department encouraged us

<sup>out</sup>  
so well as it did.

Pinnie gets her trunk  
around the world and only  
had to stop about two  
weeks in Manila.

I could tell more  
about Manila and could  
review our long but most  
delightful voyage, but this  
letter is already long enough.

I have that loving  
confidence in my precious  
girl that with her health  
good all I care to have  
said to her is, 'Enjoy yourself  
all you can.'

Her sweet disposition on all

-6-

in every way to believe, that  
we would have but little  
more than garrison duty over-  
less, and, had that been the  
case, we could have had  
our happy little garrisons.

The war-department  
permitted not only officers,  
but also enlisted men, to  
leave their families, increased  
our baggage allowance threefold  
and in various ways led us, and  
honestly too, to believe this  
a desirable place for our  
families.

We found to the contrary,  
though and now may we be  
thankful that every thing turned

occasions, her tender loving care of me during my  
sickness and her utmost devotion to the very last makes  
her so endeared to me that as I recently told her the  
world, from my point of view, consists of two parts —  
Pimmie is one, the only one for me — the other, the rest of  
the world and but a secondary part.

Before I stop writing let me say that the cable address  
"Salt, Manila" reached me promptly and that I acknowledge  
the receipt, and tender you my most sincere thanks for your  
cable, "God keep you safe", coming as it did on the thirteenth  
instant which I fully believed then was a day before I  
had to go in battle.

Remember me and give my love to all of your home,  
to Kim, Captain Clay, Susan + Miss FETTER Clay.

I will be glad to hear from any of you any  
time. Accept the love, and give a great squish to my  
precious darling girl also, of your devoted son<sup>and</sup> her devoted husband, Tom.

Soldier's letter:-  
T. L. Smith,  
1st Lieut. 1st Regt. 1st Infy.

Mrs. R. P. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky,  
United States of  
America.

MANILA  
MAY 22 1898  
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS  
MAILS

Soldier's letters  
J. L. Smith  
1st Lieut. Adj. 2/11

Mrs. R. P.  
The  
F.

to copy

MANILA

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS  
MAY  
22  
1899  
IDAM  
MANILA

Pepper,  
Cliffe,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky,  
United States of  
America.

sent to Manila.

No reliance whatever is placed in such reports, as they, like most everything else of a similar nature that is reported here, are regarded merely as the product of some fertile imagination.

Another rumor, perhaps more properly styled an extract from our current military gossip, has it that we are to remain here until next November. Cheerful, I do not? Especially so since the condition of affairs <sup>now</sup> would warrant such a presumption. If I did not think there is such an element of uncertainty about our stay, I could in several ways, for instance by getting my canvas, arrange to make camp life more enjoyable, at least less monotonous than

Camp of 17th U. S. Inf., Tampa, Florida,  
May 19th, 1898.

My dear Miss Pepper:

Your very welcome <sup>received</sup> letter of the fourteenth instant, this, the date corresponding to the eventful one of the previous month when the 17th left Columbus Barracks for what was then regarded as a somewhat uncertain destination.

That we expected to be, by this time in Cuba, as I can, with a clear conscience, say that I heard you one day thus pronounce this word, is quite certain, in fact we felt more certain about going then than we do now.

The current rumors here now - and they seem to have originated at general headquarters - are to the effect that four regiments of Infantry, now at Tampa, are to be

it otherwise would in time prove to be.

"Officer's call" has sounded once since I last wrote you and for the same purpose as before, namely in order to assemble us for some photographs. The excitement incident to the call seems gradually to be wearing away, for each time it has sounded in this camp it has proved to be what might appropriately be called, "photographer's" call. Well as I remember the night it sounded when we were at Mrs. Haines after the hop. Beyond any doubt at all, it was exciting then. Without meaning to say that there is any difficulty to realize the <sup>length of</sup> time since then, ~~but~~ it does certainly seem of many times longer duration than the calendar indicates.

I believe you will have no difficulty in getting that message to grow. Merely hang it on the limb of a tree. It was only because I knew you would say that I compared you with Mike, that I apologized for having your and Mike's name in the same sentence. Although I wrote

the sentence without thinking of such a comparison, I thought it necessary to add a few words explanatory of the fact.

It would seem that you would be getting sensitive about

that I had forgotten to send it  
as I promised.

I feel sure that the picture  
of you riding Lady Jane would be  
with those you spoke of sending soon.

Before you break the negative, send  
me a print and if you wish, I can  
easily destroy it.

19. You remember the rule to  
follow in order to avoid taking two  
pictures on one plate. Several  
times, after you took two on one  
plate at Miss Harris' home, I told  
you this rule.

Before giving the rule, it is  
necessary to call attention to the  
fact that at ~~the~~ <sup>one</sup> end of the plate  
holder slide, there is a piece of wood,  
one side of which is finished in the  
natural wood color, and the ~~other~~ side  
of which is painted black. Oh, I think

such a comparison when you  
tell me about having heard  
remarks about pictures of mine  
that should be placed in picture  
frames - remarks of which I  
have not the faintest recollection.

I know that imagination seems  
to keep me remember.

I brought my crayon outfit  
with me and hope soon to finish  
that picture I began at  
The  
Columbus Barracks  
photograph, which unfortunately does  
not belong to me, I will then  
return. If we go to Cuba, I  
will be sure to send it any how as  
otherwise it might be lost.

I do not want you to think



you know this rule anyhow. If you do not, let me know in order  
that you may avoid taking two pictures on one plate.

General Poland is still with us but it is thought he will be  
assigned elsewhere. He now commands a brigade composed of the 6th,  
9th, 17th & 21st regiments of N. Infantry.

All of the 2nd Lieutenants of this camp who were recently examined  
for promotion were examined at the same time. The examination  
was not at all difficult. I thank you for the congratulations you  
extended. I have applied to be assigned to the 17th, and as there  
will be vacancies in the grade of 1st Lieutenant sufficient to accommodate  
all those of the regiment who are to be promoted to that grade, I  
trust that my application will be approved.

I have heard nothing at all from Miss King well and you  
are the last person whom I know has heard from her. As she is  
such a dear (?) friend of yours, it does seem very mean for you not to  
send the requested flash-light pictures.

I just missed seeing Mrs. Pope the other day, and as a consequence  
have not given your message to the charming lady. I will be  
sure to see her soon and will then kindly remember you.

Mrs. Rogers, in a letter to me, asked a kind remembrance which I requested  
a day or so ago, Mr. Clay to send.

delightfully cool. A thermometer  
in the shade in our camp registered,  
at noon today, ninety-three so you  
can see that with a good breeze  
like we have, it is not very warm.

Saussure's band renders, that is, in  
accordance with the decision of my  
uncultivated ear, better, or rather more  
pleasing, music than Yeager or Pugno, or  
any of the other great masters or artists.

Give my kindest remembrances  
as usual and believe me -

Ever so sincerely,

J. L. Smith.

P.S. - I saw Dr. Lee Egan this P.M. and  
he spoke ever so nicely of you, your sisters  
and all of his "Columbian" friends and told me  
to remember him kindly when the opportunity  
offered. I think a great deal of him and  
was unusually glad to see him. Sincerely, J. L. Smith

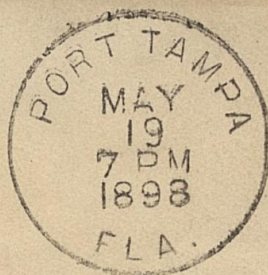
- 3 -

Mr. Clay and I are going to  
Port Tampa this afternoon at  
which place I will finish and will  
mail the letter.

We are now at Port Tampa, have  
been aboard and inspected one of  
the transports that are here  
presumably for the purpose of  
taking us to Cuba (not Cubo) and  
incidentally to afford excuses in  
which to base false war rumors.

There are ten or eleven of the  
transports here. Two gunboats (U.S.),  
"The Helena" and "The Bancroft",  
arrived here today - something else  
on which unreliable newspapers can  
base false rumors.

Port Tampa, as compared with  
the location of our camp, seems



Miss Lync S. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky.



Y

KFORT,  
MAY 21 5 1898

the wrong road.

As I remember it, we drove from High Street east on Rich Street instead of going, as I had previously remarked, I intended to go east on Lane Street which is, as you know, parallel to, and one block distant from, Rich Street.

You very naturally supposed that I had taken the wrong road to the

Barracks. These remarks will confirm your supposition that I do not remember having taken the wrong road that day.

Any how, admitting that I did - but I did not - take the wrong road, it was real mean in you not to use your own knowledge of the roads and thus tell me which way to go.

Camp of 17th U. S. Infy., Tampa, Florida,  
May 25th, 1898.

My dear Miss Pepper:-

Your welcome letter of the twenty second instant just received,

That I did say, on the occasion you mentioned in your letter, Cuba, I do not now, nor did I in my letter, deny, but do you not think you merely imagine that I <sup>then</sup> took the wrong road to the Barracks?

You will admit that we continued to drive - to be more explicit, it was not necessary to return by any portion of the road over which we had driven - until we arrived at the Barracks, so therefore we could not have taken

Having mentioned meanness, I ask you again, as I have done several times before, what could be meant, not excepting even offering salty water for me to drink, than to say you heard something both surprising and funny but that you can not tell or, to put the language in such a form that you can not be misquoted, I take from your letter as follows:-

"I heard something that would surprise you so much and it is very very funny but I can not tell as I promised not to."

Of course I do not want you to tell what you said you might not, but can you not obtain permission to tell what, referred to as you have done in the above sentence, I very naturally would like to know. You can at least give the authors names and tell about whom the remark was made so that perhaps I can eventually find out what was said.

It is now time to remark, especially if you can not say anything I have asked, that I do ~~not~~ not care particularly to know. It is nevertheless mean, under similar circumstances you said I now mean, not to tell.

General Poland has gone to Chickamauga. He promised to go with me to sketch and to show me how to fix water colors. My material

clear, Mr. Bricker, now on duty  
with Co. "F", and Mr. Davis, now on  
duty with Co. "G", reported for duty  
several days ago.

It is expected that Sergeant  
Bailes, whom you will remember  
as the man of Co. "G" of whom  
Mr. Rogers spoke so often, will  
soon obtain a commission. He  
is now undergoing examination at  
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

The city of Tampa, the  
surrounding country dotted here and  
there with camps of regulars,  
volunteers and militia, sometimes  
a cavalry camp, more frequently  
an infantry one, and less seldom  
of all an artillery one, to say  
nothing about the wagon trains  
or groups of packtrains occasionally

arrived after his departure.

Mr. Wren has gone with him  
as an Aide de Camp and, as  
you know Mr. Clay has taken  
Mr. Wren's place as Adjutant.

Mr. Michie has been temporarily  
detailed as an Aide de Camp on  
General Hawkins' Staff and, in  
all probability, will soon get  
an order detaching him for  
permanent duty in that capacity.

Captain, soon to be Major, Roberts  
has, but my information was  
obtained from a newspaper, been  
ordered to Manila for duty.

Captain Burns joins here today,  
and Captain Bush will, it is said,  
join soon, for duty.

Two of this year's West Point

seen either tied to some secret line or else being loaded into, or  
hauling, supplies, their progress perhaps being stopped by the small men  
so frequently seen in, and that seem to move wagons so slowly about,  
the streets of the once quiet, but now quite military looking city  
of Tampa - all of these things make this place look in every  
sense like the military rendezvous it is supposed to be. At Port  
Tampa there are the transports and gunboats that, not being in  
use at all, seem like they have been sent in for repairs.

It is not as hot here as one might suppose, but being unusually  
dry, and, on account of the sand, dusty, the drills are not very pleasant.  
I send you this with a sketch of the drill ground that gives  
some idea, only an approximate one however, of the character of  
the country where we have our drills. In same envelope I send a  
sketch of "Palmetto Beach" that, more than any place I know here, has  
a tropical appearance. From the pictures taken by you in the ravine, a  
very pretty sketch could be made. A somewhat lighter appearance, perhaps  
as much as you could obtain under the most favorable conditions of  
light, could be given the sketch.

I saw Mrs. Pabe yesterday and she talked a great deal. I gave  
her your remembrance. Among other things she said, "Give Miss Paber my  
love and lots of it." There are her exact words so she really is your friend.



picture taken at St. Mary's Convent  
but, if you can spare me, would  
like to see it.

I never heard any one but you  
say anything about placing Mike's  
picture in the frame where you  
had been.

When you say I made that  
statement, you rely upon it  
that I attribute it to your  
imagination.

I am not going to say, do  
that so? after your statement  
that you are afraid to ride  
horseback. It is equally  
pleasant to drive any how.

A messenger has just arrived in  
camp with the information that  
Sampson has engaged the Spanish  
fleet, captured two vessels but

- 3 -

I saw Dr. Ten Eyck last  
Thursday. Have had one letter  
from him but have not seen him  
since then.

Both Jim and Tom, Sharp are  
still with the regular forces and  
are doing duty under what must  
be admitted as very adverse  
circumstances, that is, they are  
yet enlisted men. Tom was  
promised, but failed to obtain, a  
commission in the volunteer service.

Their future military careers does  
not look, at present, like a very  
bright one and while I would not,  
as they have done, enlisted, I  
nevertheless admire their pluck<sup>and</sup>  
hope they will eventually succeed.

I never have seen a point of the

lost eight hundred sailors.

There were similar reports here soon after the conflict at Manilla so the present report is believed to signify nothing other than that a battle had been fought.

Captain Rogers' old prediction that we will go to Cuba (not Cuba) at two o'clock next week is about as nearly correct as any. Next week, I hope, is like tomorrow, that is, never comes.

I prefer to go to Porto Rico rather than Cuba as I heard today that there are no snakes in the former place.

The sight of a snake always startles me and after leaving the express swamp the other day I felt a great deal safer.

Give my usual best wishes and remembrances.

Ever so sincerely,  
J. L. Smith

P.S. You can not see any growth in the Spanish moss because it grows so slowly. Neither does it change its appearance and unless you examine it very closely it does not look as though it were alive. It is an air plant and needs no attention. Sincerely,  
J. L. Smith

Miss Lucy S. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky

On board the Wander, Gulf of Mexico, off coast of Fla.,  
June 15th., 1898.

My dear Miss Pepper:-

The following data regarding the course  
and manner in which the transports now  
conveying U.S. troops are travelling may, if  
\* it reaches you soon enough, be interesting.

It is extremely doubtful however that  
an opportunity will be offered, before the  
expedition reaches Cuba, to send any mail  
and even if we should be so fortunate it  
is more than likely that such mail  
would be kept for some time in the  
nearest post-office.

You will notice from a sketch I send  
that the transports although supposed, as

\* Written after the completion of this letter. You see that I did  
not intend to inflict such a long letter upon you.

indicated in this letter on pages 5<sup>and 6</sup>,  
to travel, each in its proper place, are  
unable to do so, and are frequently far  
from their proper positions. For this  
reason it frequently becomes necessary  
to halt the entire expedition to get  
each transport in its proper place.

At night no lights, other than one  
red light in the stern of the Steamer, and  
the few absolutely necessary lights, are  
allowed to burn so that unless one can  
sleep during the darkness, the time  
then seems very monotonous.

The following is the course we are to take:  
South of Gay Sal Bank and nearer to it  
than to the Cuban shore; thence south of

Anguila Island. Through the center of  
the Bahama Channel; thence passing ten  
miles south of Cay S. Domingo; thence  
proceeding to a point W. N. W. of Matthew  
Town Light, ~~St. James~~ <sup>Great</sup> Inagua Id. At  
this point the belated ships will be  
awaited for a few hours, and the course  
thence will be to a point fifteen miles  
~~south~~ east of Cape Maysi; thence, keeping  
fifteen miles from shore to a point  
fifteen miles south of Santiago.

This seems, in reading it, like  
an awful tangle, but if you care  
to look up the matter I will, with  
the aid of any good maps, search, for  
example as you can find in the

Encyclopaedia Britannica, be an easy thing to do. I will tell you where to look for these places. Cay Sal Bank is on a line directly south of the southern extremity of Florida and ~~is~~ is about twice as far from Florida as it is from Cuba.

Anguila Island is east (a little south of east, to be more accurate) of Cay Sal Bank, and so located as to be about the same distance <sup>(50 to 60 miles)</sup> from Cay Sal Bank as it is from Cuba.

Old Bahama Channel you will find directly in the course, and near the Cuban shore, as you proceed eastward from the south of Anguila Island. Cay San Domingo is about sixty miles north of Cuba and one hundred <sup>and</sup> twenty-five west of the extreme eastern point of Cuba.





- 6 -

			<sup>F<sub>0</sub></sup>			
	Santiago 2X	Whitney 10X	Sandwich 8X			
Panther	1600	Quincy 3X	Seneca 5X	Saratoga 20X	1600	Yosemite 0
			<sup>F<sub>0</sub></sup>			
	Cherokee 4X	Securanea 12X	Alamo 6X			
			<sup>F<sub>0</sub></sup>			x Boonie (lighter)
	Olivette 11X	Inferno 25X	Morgan 30X			
			<sup>F<sub>0</sub></sup>			
		Banquet	Manning	Hornet		Detroit
		0	0	0		800 0
			<sup>F<sub>0</sub></sup>			
	Mittewan 26X	Stillwater 28X	Ro. Grand 22X			
			<sup>F<sub>0</sub></sup>			
	Comal 7X	Knickerbocker 13X	Vigilance 23X			
			<sup>F<sub>0</sub></sup>			
	Quantan 8X	Manteo 36X	Orizaba 24X			
Wampatuck	1600	Aransas 27X	Breakwater 29X	Cumberland 31X	1600	Eagle 0
			<sup>F<sub>0</sub></sup>			
	St. Michaels 19X	Concho 14X	Clinton 32X			
			<sup>F<sub>0</sub></sup>			
	Capt Sam 35X	Laurel 33X	Lena 21X			
	(dog)	(lighter)				
	Kanawha 37X	16	City of Washington 16X			
	(not a load)	0				

Wash

After getting additional rations on last Friday,

- 7 -

June 10<sup>th</sup>, the troops were rearranged somewhat and a number of other little matters attended to and finally the expedition started, that is, was out of the bay and in the gulf at about 4:00 o'clock, P.M., June 14<sup>th</sup> (just a little more than a week after we first boarded the transports).

Great difficulty was experienced in keeping the fleet together during the night and but little headway was made. Now, 2:00 o'clock, P.M., June 15<sup>th</sup>, the fleet is about one hundred and twenty miles from Port Tampa, or expressing it another way, about one-half way to Key West which place it is expected we will reach at about six o'clock tomorrow morning. The

only vessel that we have thus far met is one large (three masted) freight schooner.  
(See first sheet, reverse side of page one)

This letter is getting long, and no doubt wearisome, but to avoid its getting any bulkier, you see, that I have returned to the first sheet of paper on the reverse side of page one.

Our steamer, the Mantos, is a small one and for that reason rocks considerably. Two companies of the 17th U. S. Infy. (Companies B & F) and two of the Mass. U. S. Volunteers are on board here. A number of the Mass. men and also a number of the regulars have been sea-sick but thus far none of the officers have been. The sea is of an indigo blue - much more <sup>so</sup> than I had ever contemplated seeing. It is now delightfully cool and the travel is no doubt very safe, safer some claim, than that on land, but it will never seem so to me and I certainly would feel a great deal more at ease were I standing on terra firma.

On the day before the expedition started, it was decided that the "Cherokee", which we were then aboard was overcrowded. There were then more than one thousand men on board the vessel. Companies "B" and "F" ~~the~~ 17th U.S. Infy. were ordered to board the Florida which had been damaged recently by the steamer, Miami. An inspection showed that the repairs made on the Florida were not sufficiently good to warrant sending her with troops and for that reason we were ordered on this boat, the Montez. The officers are quite nicely cared for here and the men, and certainly the latter deserve the highest praise for the suffering they undergo without the least complaint, are a great deal more comfortable than they were before.

The men of this expedition are, generally

speaking, dressed in uniform suitable for a northern winter climate, in fact the very uniform they wear in the winter months in the north, and are very much crowded in nearly every transport.

The health of the troops, with a comparatively few exceptions, good.

To give you some idea of the cost of the war, I will mention a few items in the expense list.

The use of the transports costs the government about \$35000 daily, but notwithstanding this, there was a delay of one week in sending us. The water used, (at two cents per gallon) cost \$80000 daily, to say nothing about the enormous amounts necessary for the pay and supply departments.

The animals have been dying, a few

each day, ever since the day after they were first put on the transports.

Here the ink in my fountain pen became exhausted, a pretty good indication that this epistle is already long enough, but there is so little else to do that I am going to continue and you need read only until you begin to get tired of it.

For a few hours prior to our departure from the dock at Port Tampa, the men, & well as officers were forbidden to go ashore.

It was not known, by the men, when we would depart and as there had already been a number of tedious and seemingly unnecessary delays when we started once before, a number of men disregarded the orders to remain on board. When everything was ready to start some men were on shore and some

§ 12 -

were aboard but on the wrong transport. Fearing punishment for having disobeyed orders, each man made his best endeavors to get on board with his own company, and some of the scenes that then occurred were amusing indeed, particularly so on account of the fact that the gang planks or staging <sup>the roadway</sup> ~~is~~ sometimes used - but to tell exactly what I mean, I will call them the timbers reaching from the vessel to the shore, - has been quickly removed at each transport.

A number of <sup>reaching</sup> ~~guy-rope~~ from the vessels to the shore were still in place and these are what the men tried to use in coming from the shore to the transports and vice versa. Some men fell in the water, some made good progress until the

ropes began to swing too much and a few were quite upset, perhaps as much so as Mike, when in as great a hurry as they, would be, and were soon at their proper place. By pulling <sup>through the nets</sup> with ropes, such of those who could not climb, all were finally in their proper places.

Another amusing incident occurred that day. Sicut Smith of the 12th U.S. Infy. was pushed off the gang planks into the water. A six-mule army team was running away and the rear portion of the company, in order to escape the team, rushed practically forward and pushed into the water a number of men who had started from the shore to the vessel.

Sharks and porpoises were frequently seen while we were in Tampa Bay but



some have been seen by us in the gulf

I have nearly completed the sketches of the cave and may do so before I get an opportunity to mail it. It is hoped that there will be a mail boat at Key West but it is extremely doubtful.

There are, I am told, more than three tons of mail at Port Tampa so that you may even get yet this or soon as you get a letter I mailed there. In that I told you perhaps more than I said, I had the right to, but I committed no greater wrong

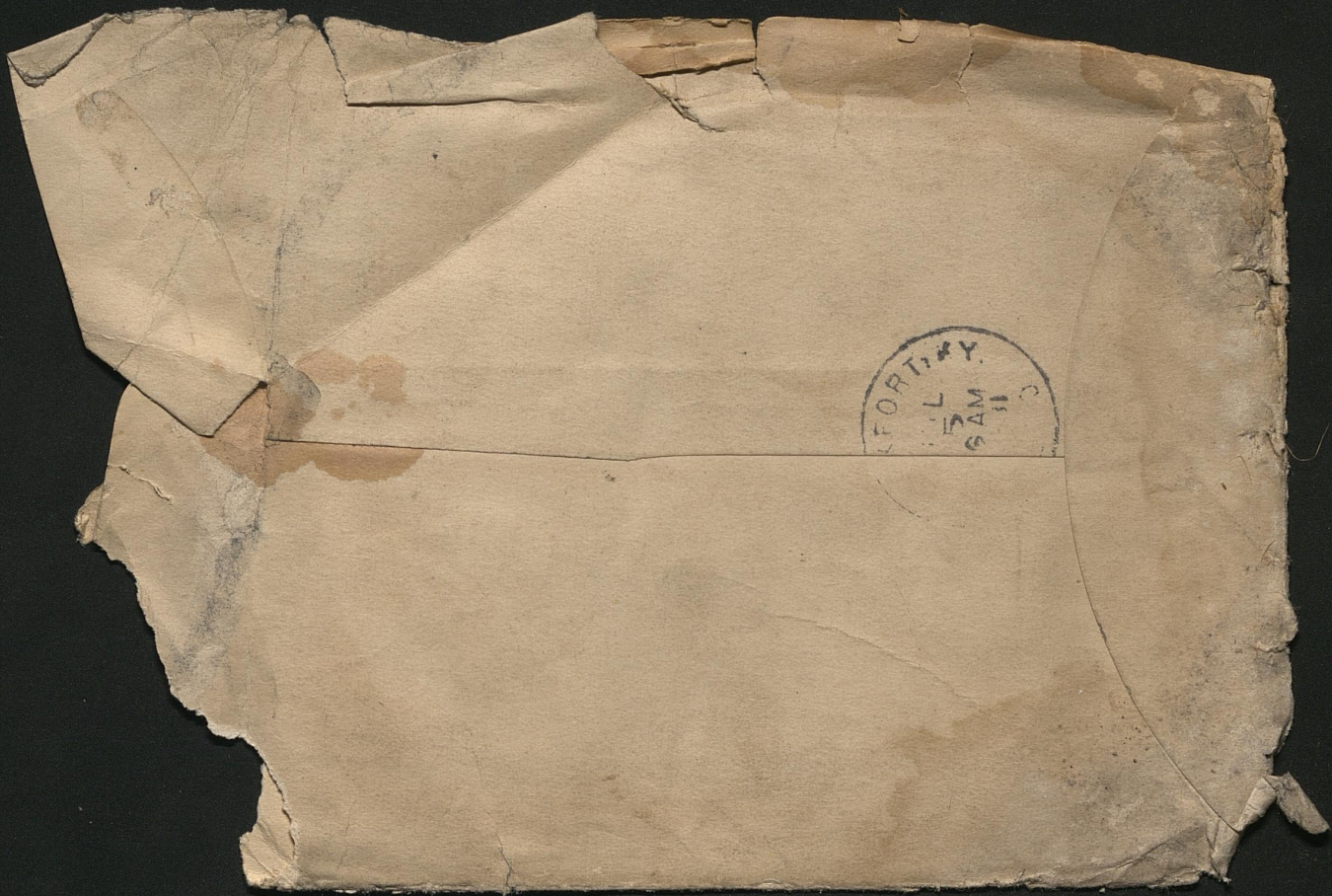
than that of telling you what I <sup>believed</sup> should

If you do not get that letter, and do not get this one, you will know that I then <sup>asked</sup> the usual kind remembrances, and because I had to write and not speak, adhered to formality in the letter - yet sent them as I do now the love and best wishes of

J. L. Duncanson

CALTIMORE MD  
JUL 4  
833AM  
98

Miss Lyncie S. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky



FORTIFY.  
L  
SAM  
6 11

is merely in accordance with  
my promise not to take with  
me to Cuba the photographs  
herewith enclosed and which is  
the property of Mrs. Clay.

The unfinished picture - the  
one I intended to finish here in  
camp - I mailed <sup>for you</sup> with what I

think is a pretty photograph  
of the "Tampa Bay Hotel".

If you will kindly keep for  
me the unfinished one, I would  
like to finish it some day. Perhaps  
one of our future camps will  
be of a more permanent nature  
than any we have been in

Camp of 17th U. S. Infy., Tampa, Florida,  
June 25th., 1898.

My dear Miss Esber -

The regiment having been  
ordered to Port Tampa, I take it  
for granted that we may likely  
be ordered from the latter place  
in the very near future, but  
where I do not know.

The officers' and men's baggage  
for our present move is not to  
exceed the weight prescribed for us  
to take to Cuba so that the  
personal property of mine is  
exactly what I will take in  
case of a move to Cuba. You  
will I believe understand that it

the rain I should say, evidently helped you to get a  
good picture.

I will send you in the next mail a water color  
sketch, the first one I ever attempted, which is not  
very good but is a military one nevertheless. I sketched  
the outline from a photograph somewhat smaller than  
pictures I sent.

Three heavy showers in the first instant caused  
to think that the rainy season had begun soon enough  
but, as there has been no rain since that time, we have  
changed our opinion.

The troops seem to be in the best of spirits and  
generally speaking, their hearts is good.

The different supply departments are unusually busy in  
their preparation, evidently for our departure which although  
much delayed, I sincerely hope will be sent forward for  
some time yet.

Accept and give my kindest remembrance and best wishes and  
believe me all to be sincerely,  
Yours,  
W. P. Smith.

The enclosed picture is the same as the one I sent you the first of the month. I hope you will like it.

him, and he was quite pleased  
with it.

It looks very much like  
the sun was shining at the  
time that pictures were taken.

You will remember that, on the  
afternoon of the day of our  
departure from Columbus, although  
it did rain some, the  
sun shone quite a good deal.

I have not said that  
you have forgotten that you  
took that picture, the one of  
Mr. Clay, when the sun was  
shining. I merely leave it  
to your own memory.  
In any event, the sun is rather

Camp of 7th U.S. Inf., Tampa, Florida,  
June 3rd, 1891.

My dear Miss Epper:-

I received, this morning,  
your letter, also photo of  
Mr. Clay and of convent, both  
of which pictures are, I think,  
good.

As it was so dark in  
the convent when the pictures  
were taken (3 or 4 o'clock P.M. in  
a winter day) I expected that  
the negative would be very  
much under exposed but, judging  
from the print, it seems to  
have been exposed just about  
the proper length of time.  
I handed Mr. Clay's picture to

thus far and if you will then mail it to me, it will  
afford me pleasure to complete my work on it.

Mr. Clay's better acquaintance with the details of the  
order for us more will perhaps enable him to tell - and he  
is writing a letter now - our probable destination which is at  
present generally believed to be Port Lempson, distant from  
here about nine miles.

Unfortunately I obtained an outline of the sketch of  
our camp that we are about to abandon so that I will in a  
few days let you see how - bare looking it was.

By the mail I send a small water color sketch, made from  
my photograph. The photograph was taken while the  
transit was being difficult in taking the horse from camp  
& water.

All mail for the fort will be forwarded to the proper  
address whatever it may be and I assure you I will be  
happy to be the recipient of further letters from you.

With the best wishes and kindest remembrance, I remain

Most sincerely,  
J. S. Smith



Miss Lync S. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky





PORTLAND  
JUN 19  
6 1903

beautiful than it actually is.  
Yes, you did tell me  
what Mr. Powell said about  
my asking and you know  
that I said Mr. Powell  
talked merely for the purpose  
of hearing himself.

Although I admitted that,  
in no sense, I took the  
wrong road to the barracks, I  
tried to prove to you that  
it was hardly fair to presume  
that the road I took was  
altogether the wrong one.

Yet you seem to have  
overlooked this proof for nowhere  
in your letter do you admit  
that the road over which I  
drove was in any sense the

Camp of 17th U.S. Inf., Tampa, Florida,  
June 1st., 1898.

My dear Miss Pepper:-

Your very welcome letter  
received this afternoon. No mail  
was delivered in camp this  
morning although, in all  
probability, it was there in  
the Tampa post office.

I sent you a sketch of  
the Hillsborough river and this  
sketch, like the rest of the  
drill ground, is better looking  
than the actual scene.

Any country, however beautiful,  
in which there are many  
swamps is <sup>not</sup>, in my opinion,  
certainly very inviting so, for  
this reason I believe that  
you think our drill ground more

right one. As you said nothing to the contrary, I am,  
after the conclusive proof sent in my last letter, going to  
assume that you now admit that I did not take the  
wrong road.

Most of the officers of the 17<sup>th</sup> who were recently  
promoted hope, since there will be enough vacancies in the  
regiment to do this, to be assigned to duty again with  
the 17<sup>th</sup>. Sergeant Bates did fail on his first  
examination but was later given another trial which proved  
successful. I trust he was successful in his final  
examination. The results of this one have not been  
announced.

Perhaps what you heard about one of the officers of the  
17<sup>th</sup> and which there may have been a secret is no  
longer one and it may be that you have heard the  
same thing that I have. You seem to be having  
a great deal of fun, in being so mean as not to tell  
what you heard so that if I tell you what I hear you  
will at least tell me if it is the same that you heard

The secret was thus pretty well known in camp but, under the circumstances, nothing more was said about it until Lieut., or Charlie as you quite frequently used to say, Roberts was ready to receive congratulations from his brother officers.

Miss Bradford having announced the engagement I feel it libelous to thus tell you what I heard.

I congratulated Mr. Roberts but, on account of the uncertainty of the duration or result of the present war, feel somewhat sorry for Miss Bradford although, and I trust she does not, she may not feel the least unhappy or disturbed on this account.

-2-

It was rather amusing the way this "once upon a time" secret was first told in our camp.

In reading aloud certain extracts, of general information, from a letter from Mrs. Mann, this little item was read by Captain Mann who at once made it known to all the officers present and in his immediate vicinity at the time. The next words - these were at the top of the next page of his letter - that met his gaze were something like this: "But do not tell this to any one."

This affair was quite a surprise - perhaps not general  
either, but it did appear that way to me.  
You may have heard this, but not have heard that  
it is no longer a secret. You can at least tell me, if  
you can not say what you did hear, if this is what  
you heard.

Every one is placing great confidence in Sampson as the  
results that he accomplishes with his fleet will have  
is much to do with shaping the future duties of the  
army. His success (that it is believed he will meet) with it  
is hoped, practically settle the war.

Mrs. Poirer seems quite happy. Says that the Sharp  
boys want her son to enlist and that, although she  
would never agree <sup>or rather consent</sup> to such a thing in time of peace, she  
thinks it a good thing for him to do.

Mr. Michie says to thank you for congratulations you  
extended him. I quote him further, he says, if you  
see Miss Longstreth, "to boom his stock." He comes to  
our camp once in a while but not more than about  
twice a week. His duties as aide keep him quite busy.

travel but actually pass  
each other. This is as

near as I can remember it,  
about the way you described  
it.

Mr. Clay spoke about the  
sale of the wheat at \$1.75

that was fine. It proved  
to be a fortunate thing to  
store it.

Our camp has been  
moved within the last week,  
from Tampa Heights to West  
Tampa. There are no  
trees in our present camp and  
its site is in a location  
far from picturesque.

I will send you a sketch of  
it in a day or so. I started

-3-

I seem that you  
understand your self. Certainly  
if you are very much afraid  
of horses, you act so that  
no one would know it.

"Six runaways daily" will  
certainly afford great  
excitement but would make  
it rather dangerous for  
bicyclists to be on the same  
road as the street cars.

If there is to be a  
park behind your post, I  
can not understand where it  
will be. The large hill is  
in the way - the hill with  
the wonderful path over it.

The path from two to three  
feet in width over which wagons  
about four feet wide not only

a water color sketch a day or so ago but it has not  
proved much of a success. I have a great deal of leisure  
time and will be pleased to send you a sketch of the  
scene.

Mr. Clay has been absent from camp this evening so I  
could not tell him what you said about Susan. When I  
do see him I shall be sure to tell him, and then  
you may expect to hear from him.

There are now various rumors about moves which, like  
most of the previous rumors, we hope will prove incorrect.

It rained hard most of the afternoon of this day so that  
our camp is both dirty and disagreeable. Tomorrow's  
sun will show the good effects of the rain.

With kindest remembrances and best wishes, believe me,

As ever sincerely,

J. D. Smith

P.S. I enclose two photographs - one taken near "Tampa Bay Hotel"  
and the other shows the transports at Port Tampa. Sincerely, J. D. Smith



Miss Lync S. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky.





FRANKFORT, KY.  
4 SAM  
1898  
REC'D

eradicate from my mind thoughts of  
both Mr. Dickinson and Mr. Michie  
and especially the latter. To whom I  
felt so very deeply attached.

But then this case is continuing  
in the very strain I wish to  
avoid so I will now try to give  
some of the incidents that have  
occurred since I last wrote you.

The duties that have devolved  
upon us have been very arduous and  
in many respects different from  
those that as a rule mankind  
generally is called upon to perform.

The great daily <sup>given better</sup> labor of our  
country has, general idea of what  
has happened than any one  
individual engaged in this conflict  
can possibly give so all I will  
say will be matters connected  
with my regiment only.

W. T. D. S. only, near Santiago de Cuba,  
July 25, 1898.

My dear Miss Espar:

Some mail came to the  
regiment today - the first that has  
reached us since we left the U. S.  
nearly one month ago - and with it  
were your welcome letters of the  
ninth, fourteenth, and sixteenth ultimos  
all of which I now gladly receive.

In a letter sent you about ten  
or twelve days ago I told you some  
of the experiences of the regiment  
to include June twenty-sixth or  
seventh.

Since then our lot, like most  
of the troops engaged in this present  
warfare, has not been a very happy  
one - in fact so unhappy has I been  
at times that now I doubt my  
letters will not be as sad or  
uninteresting as my spirit are  
depressed.

Only time can change them for  
now it seems impossible for me to

On Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 3:00 o'clock, P.M. the regiment marched about three miles and went into camp. Here we remained until about

3:00 o'clock P.M. June 3<sup>rd</sup>. A sketch of this camp I now have as well as several other sketches some of which are now merely outlined in pencil. I have but one envelope now that will hold any sketches and in a few days hope to send a number of sketches in it.

At about eight o'clock, P.M., the regiment, after a very tiresome march over a rough and hilly road made very muddy by a heavy rain of the afternoon, went into bivouac for the night.

Everyone realized that we were now not far from hostile troops in Conroy, a small village three or four miles north east of, and at present writing separated by us our line of troops from the city of Santiago.

At about two o'clock next morning a dog and horse caused, in a manner yet unexplained, a sentinel to become so frightened that he rushed to our lines and awoke us so suddenly that in our sleepy condition, we naturally thought the enemy was upon us. Many of the regiment have said that they were frightened and excited more than they have been at any time since notwithstanding the fact that we have been under fire three days and suffered less during each of those three days, since then. At four o'clock next morning everyone was awakened but recall was not sounded.

time not being allowed to return the fire & is said that the most seasoned troops find it a great deal more difficult and tiring to be under moderate fire under these conditions than to be under a heavy fire with the privilege of replying.

After the battle, part of companies "C" and "F" were put on outpost duty and the remainder sent to search for dead and wounded.

The other companies of the regiment returned in the meantime to the place along the road where they had left their baggage - just before coming into the zone of fire the companies took all baggage, taking with them their rifles and full equipment of ammunition, leaving one man to guard this baggage and after firing had ceased sent for this baggage and then marched nearly to Caney where camp was made.

At night companies "C" and "F" did likewise but had just pitched tents when the order came to break camp and start on the march. This was at about eight

o'clock since then the companies have been formed under arms at four o'clock, A.M., but at no time has a call been sounded.

For several days fire was prohibited and sometimes talking was not allowed.

The march to Caney (the local, and perhaps, correct pronunciation of which is Can-nay) was begun as soon after the men were ordered as I took to reform the regiment under arms.

The 7th and 12th regiments of Infantry, and perhaps others of which I have no knowledge, started when we did, but moved with us the day before, and in every way as far as I know, had about the same experience as the 17th.

One of these regiments, the 7th, was more unfortunate in the engagement at Caney on July first.

During the march, at 6:30 o'clock, A.M., the day's (July 1st) battle began and continued for eleven hours about ten of which the 17th was under fire losing men all the time at quite regular intervals but at the same

5 o'clock P.M. July 1<sup>st</sup>. The march was continued all night - the regiment stopping at one point, along the route to replenish ammunition - and at about sunrise next morning, arrived east of Santiago at a place where the battle was then, and had also been the day before, in progress.

Lieut. Dickinson and Col. Haskell were wounded near Cany the day before and just before getting to the extreme point on this (July 2<sup>nd</sup>) morning, we were shown where near Mr. Michie had been killed the day before.

The regiment passed the point under fire but luckily not a single man was wounded or killed. Soon we were on a ridge quite near the enemy and began to entrench a position which we held until our arrival on our present position. (July 5<sup>th</sup>)

We were under fire all day on July 2<sup>nd</sup> and until noon of July 3<sup>rd</sup> at which time a flag of truce was sent in.

Every company of the regiment sustained some losses. Company F, into which I am serving had one killed, five wounded and one missing.

There has been a flag of truce on the enemy's line since the cessation of firing at noon July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The naval battle raged for over an hour on the morning of July 3<sup>rd</sup> and by noon we knew that the Spanish fleet had been destroyed and its Commander, Cerro, captured.

July 4<sup>th</sup> on, the date on which many had predicted U.S. forces would be marching through Santiago was spent in silent waiting and watching. Both officers and men, notwithstanding that the truce is still on, have their hours both during the day and night when they must be aware and on duty in the trenches.

At about noon of this date the regiment was furnished with a limited supply of

I then received all of it. He returned, I remembered, thoroughly touched to the spot, Mr. Michie thinking it a great sort of joke.

During the time that firing was going on the men seem to take little notice of things that would at other times disturb them.

The good qualities of the inner men seem to be lost almost entirely for they can see, with the greatest calmness, their comrades killed and wounded - in some cases seeming to give no more than a casual glance.

I forgot to say that at about ten o'clock, P.M., July 3rd, a terrific night attack was made by the Spaniards on the left of the ridge we occupied. After nearly an hour fighting they were repulsed.

At about nine-thirty o'clock A.M. July 5th, the regiment marched, by road, about one mile and took position on a ridge northeast of and about one-fourth mile from

estables, such as peaches, a few cans of peaches and tomatoes, that seemed great delicacies to us.

Tobacco also was issued and this more than anything else of the issue pleased the enlisted men.

All conditions considered, every one was in surprisingly good spirits.

The cessation of firing for more than a day had, however, brought me to a full realization of the horrors of this terrible conflict.

I simply cannot recall my own thoughts of Mr. Michie.

During the afternoon of July 4th, 1st. Sergeant Howell of Company "G" came to me and said:

"Lieutenant, do you remember where you were a year ago Friday?"

For a moment I could not recall and replied, "I do not."

He then said, "Well, I saw both you and Mr. Michie at Miner's Park, Columbus. Both of you were in light summer suits and straw hats and were running, without umbrellas, through a heavy rain."

our previous position. We then began to intrench the latter position and since then have occupied it to the present time, eight-thirty o'clock, A.M., July 5th.

The first flag of truce was evidently sent in to notify the authorities of the intended bombardment of Santiago and to demand their surrender.

Early July 5th, just at day-break in fact, the residents of Santiago began their march from Santiago towards our lines. Since a petition signed by

some of them presented, I never saw before. It took all day for these poor people to get out of their city. They have nothing to eat and our government must for the present feed them.

Four ambulance loads of Spanish wounded men, at noon this day, were from Ponce, through our lines to Santiago.

At day-break of July 6th it was reported that the Spaniards were preparing to attack but the report fortunately proved to be incorrect.

It is thought and certainly hoped that some sort of peace negotiations are being arranged.

The past several days have been quiet. Reports are that the Spaniards have no communication with their home government and everyone now anxiously awaits the result.

They have until noon today in which to come to a decision. If they then wish to continue, I presume the bombardment will begin, as the soldiers say, "The music will then begin."

For two days it has not rained here but previous to that time it has rained nearly every day at some time between eleven o'clock, A.M. and four o'clock, P.M.

only of that - has reached us, so that  
when they die, the rest of the  
mail I shall be in the look out  
for that pound of Huggers.

A pound of Huggers here would sell  
a thousand times better than it  
would in the U. S., but as you are  
paying your bet with it, I will  
consider it to be of value in the U.S.

How glad you was pleased with the  
note color sketches and thought them  
better than I did.

The Tamber Bay Hotel picture  
is on a mat surface platinum  
paper. I saw the negative. It is  
a splendid one.

The photograph you sent locates  
the park very nicely and I thank  
you for the same. I do not  
admit that I imagined the location  
of the park. I simply repeated  
what I thought you said about it and  
then when I could not understand how  
it could be so located.

-4-

The sky begins to darken slightly  
at various places toward the east  
and after awhile these small  
dark places seem to gather in  
one huge dark mass that seems  
to hover, but in reality is advancing, over  
the tops of the mountains directly  
east of us. You can watch this  
cloud and tell where the rain is  
heaviest, which parts of the valley  
are likely to be rained upon, and  
will soon know whether the point  
where you stand is to receive any of  
the rain or not.

The rain does not, I understand,  
make conditions conducive to health,  
but it certainly does reduce the  
temperature considerably so that  
you can readily see how one, in the  
tropics here during July for instance,  
woud welcome it.

Nothing but our letter mail - and a lot



You seem to think it rather funny that Mr. Roberts should wear a beard but  
he now has worn one for such a long time that it would seem strange to  
see him without it.

Here really is a funny thing that he recently did. He mailed a letter  
to Miss Bradford, giving the proper street and number, but instead of Columbus  
Ohio, he wrote Tampa Florida in the address on the envelope. The

letter was returned to him yesterday.  
I am glad that I gave no offense in telling how I felt toward  
you. The conditions under which we left the U. S. were such as to  
make us think a great deal about those for whom we cared -  
else I would not have taken the liberty to write you what then I  
told you I thought, and even now know, I had not the right to say.

I am very glad though that I gave no offense.  
I saw your letter of June 20th. I got that some of the daily papers  
did some very poor guessing as to the time we landed. Instead of June 6th  
our landing, was as you know, effected on June 22nd.

I will be pleased to make that visit to the cliffs with Mr. Clay.  
He and I have a walk the other evening to an old and very pretty  
Spanish bridge - a sketch of which I will send you - that is about a mile east of us  
at a point where the Santiago road crosses the San Juan creek.

It is now just two hours until the battle may begin. I hope it never  
will begin but if it does, I trust all of us may be spared.

I have not seen Mr. Clay since the receipt of your letter but will deliver  
your message when I do see him.

Give my kindest remembrances to inquiring friends and believe me

Yours sincerely,  
J. D. Smith, 17th U.S. Infantry.

Yours sincerely,  
J. D. Smith.

P.S. I have not the faintest  
idea of the name of the  
bridge. I have a letter  
with it and will bring  
it to you.

FRANKFORT KY  
JUL 25  
2 30 PM  
86



UNITED STATES

Military Station No. 1, CUBA.

Miss Dune S. Pepper,  
~~The Cliffs,~~

~~Frankfort,~~  
~~no. 80 West Lawrence Kentucky,~~  
~~Kentucky, U. S. A.~~  
Kokomo Ind.



13 AM  
1898  
RECEIVED

NEW YORK  
JUL 23  
6:00 PM  
98

NEW YORK  
JUL 23  
6:00 PM  
98

times? If I did make  
that statement, - look at  
my letter to see if I did -  
I wish to correct it by  
saying that you said the  
one of the mess tent was  
over-timed.

I took a ride on  
my horse - General Lincoln  
today, General Paul  
tomorrow - and found that  
while he paid very little  
attention to street-cars, he  
did object most seriously  
to going over a viaduct  
under which there was  
a moving train that

Columbus Barracks, Ohio,  
Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>, 1898

My dearest Syne:-

I thank you for your  
congratulations regarding my  
appointment as Adjutant of  
the regiment. I am as  
glad on your account as on  
my own for, in many ways,  
it is a desirable position.

That is funny indeed  
that you did not know  
which picture you said  
was venturer. But then  
did I claim you said the  
one of the ocean was over-

sent coal smoke all around him. After two or three more lessons, he will likely be quite gentle.

I looked at my new camera yesterday - the one I bought just prior to the departure of the 17th ~~from~~ here last April. I have never yet used the camera but think it quite complete. I will let you experiment with it.

Mr. Drumphrey did not get that hop as we have but three men of the band able for duty. We will soon have a new band leader - one who came very highly recommended by professional men.

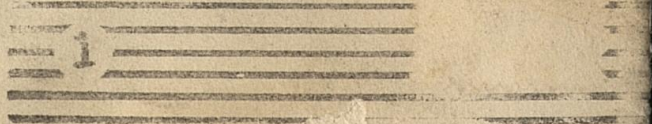
Mr. Hardaway has at last obtained his sick leave. It is for two months' duration. Mr. Hart may not return <sup>now</sup> as his leave has been extended two months.

I hope to get a short leave in the near future as I want to see, and to talk with, you.

With love and best wishes, I am

Most sincerely,  
J. L. Smith.

COLUMBUS, OHIO  
SEP 30  
9-AM  
1898



Miss Lyne S. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky



SEPT  
2 DM  
TRANSIT

of addressing each other  
can and of course will be  
maintained at all times  
that will be necessary  
to keep our engagement a  
profound secret as we  
can.

I can and will absolutely  
deny it if any one has  
"Gumley's" (a common  
expression you will observe but  
to you at least, and to me it  
has been for a long time, a  
significant one) (audacity  
~~except~~ to ask me such a  
question for I certainly feel  
licensed to deny it on the  
principle that we have in  
our military affairs.

Columbus Warracks, Ohio  
September 19<sup>th</sup>, 1898.

My dearest Lynne:

Or "Pinnie" or "Pin" if  
you wish it but certainly  
not as I have the right  
to address you in this  
manner - but formal than  
in previous letters but no  
more than in accordance  
with the way I feel  
towards you and as I have  
already told you.

Perhaps though you prefer  
- but I will not say that I  
heard you say so - the name  
"Pinnie"  
In any event the formalities



To illustrate, when a matter exists in a military sense, it must be officially announced, or it is supposed not to exist. So that I feel justified, in perhaps absolutely denying it - for neither of us are required to answer questions - but at least in giving some evasive answer to the inquisitive one.

Mrs. Grumley had a way - I can tell you now but I did not care to say so before although I may have almost indicated it in the letter I wrote concerning her remarks about the promotions in this regiment - by making a statement to you for no other purpose than to get you to deny it or assent to it - in other words to get me to tell all about any particular matter that she, Mrs. Grumley, desired to know.

It used to amuse me for I would purposely give an answer foreign to the subject at hand.

Here is some gossip about us - rather amusing too but as you can see it is well not to repeat what I heard. I was told that Miss Powell had said that Miss Clay (Miss Feeder Clay as you would say) seemed always to keep, by her staying with me,

him) good-bys.

When I last saw him  
he was as jolly and  
good natured as ever.

I have not yet acknowledged  
the receipt of your last  
letter to me but the time  
is this we had so far shown  
that I have received your  
letter.

I regarded you, and have  
done so for a long time as  
an acquaintance that  
extended over a couple of  
years, as a girl the sweetest  
and dearest that I have  
ever met or I would not have  
taken the step I did on the

- 2 -

you and I from being near  
each other. I thought  
how well Miss Clay had  
acted her part, as she  
knew what we think of  
each other and yet  
accomplished what Miss Powell  
really believed (as I think) she  
would not do.

No one noticed, at least I  
do think, that I was  
very far gone - not even  
as much as I used to see  
Mr. Harbison do.

By the way I left  
Montauk without passing to  
bid Mr. Harbison (Jim & I called)

minutes of this matter - a step too that, as I then told  
you, I had never taken before.

You may feel at liberty to request any thing of  
me or to ask any question if I can ever answer  
any thing you wish to know.

I fear that both Mr. (Captain I should say) Clay and I  
will have some difficulty in getting a leave of absence but  
I hope nevertheless to see you soon at Columbus Barracks.

Miss Mary Pepper (or May as she used to try to make me  
believe I had called her) can not now embarrass me  
as, I must confess, she did when I acted as a pupil  
during "the lesson" she gave at Mrs. Grumley's one evening.

to Mrs. Pepper I have written a letter on the  
subject to which she has, through you, replied; so now  
give to her and family and accept for yourself the love  
and best wishes of all

Yours most sincerely

J. S. Smith

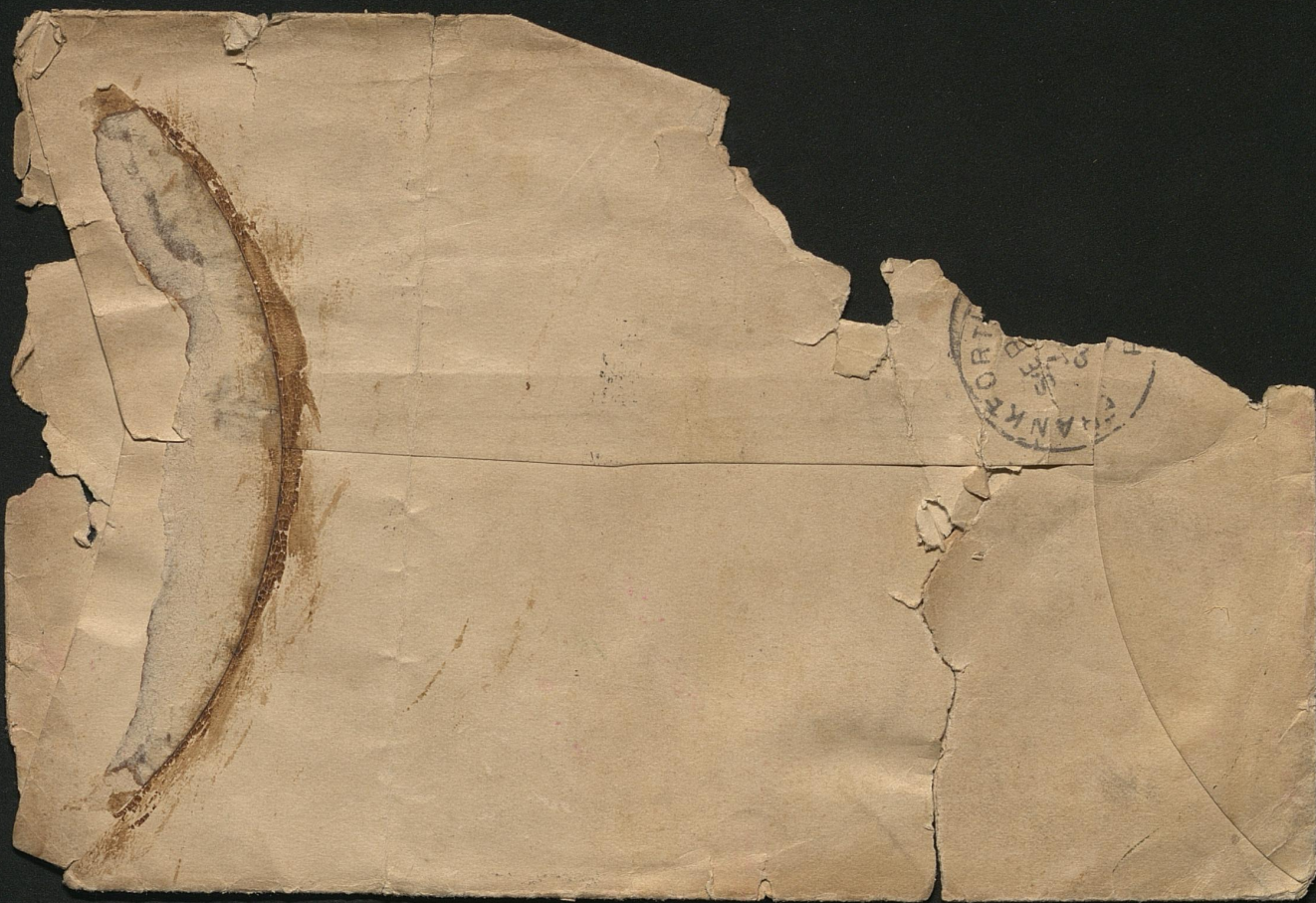
10 Lieut Chas. Humphrey, if in doubt  
Columbus Barracks  
Ohio

is the address you request but  
the omission of the Christian name  
would have made no difference

LOUISVILLE  
KENTUCKY  
NOV 18



Miss Lync S. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky.



There is no band here  
now - in fact there six  
members of the band now  
in the fort and three of  
them are sick - and this  
must seem like a  
recruiting rendezvous again

When the band members  
return again - most of  
them are absent on furlough -  
the band will get into  
shape again

Mr. Overshier returned  
here today and Mr. and  
Mrs. Perry are, I understand, to  
return next Friday. Mr. &  
Mrs. Hart return next  
Saturday

Columbus Barracks, Ohio

Sept 25, 1898.

My dearest Lynn:-

The photographs  
sent by you came today

The one of the ocean,  
that is, the view of it taken  
near the main tent is  
very pretty indeed. It  
was taken, you will remember,  
with smallest diaphragm  
(f 64) and with <sup>time of</sup> quickest  
exposure (1/100 sec.) which  
though we concluded did  
not differ materially from  
the <sup>time of</sup> exposure when the  
index indicated one half  
second

Captain May told me that he had sent a telegram  
but left me to guess whose name was in it.

I hope it is line I think and that you mean  
to able to come with Mrs. Clay

Major Roberts surprised me today when he  
directed me to telegraph the Adjutant General U.S.A.  
that I had been appointed Regimental Adjutant.

To those - and you are one - who know the events  
that mark it, this certainly has been an  
eventful month for me.

The weather here is almost perfect now - even  
the rains; usually so frequent, seem to come just  
about as they are needed.

Accept for yourself, + give <sup>as usual</sup> my love and best  
wishes most sincerely,

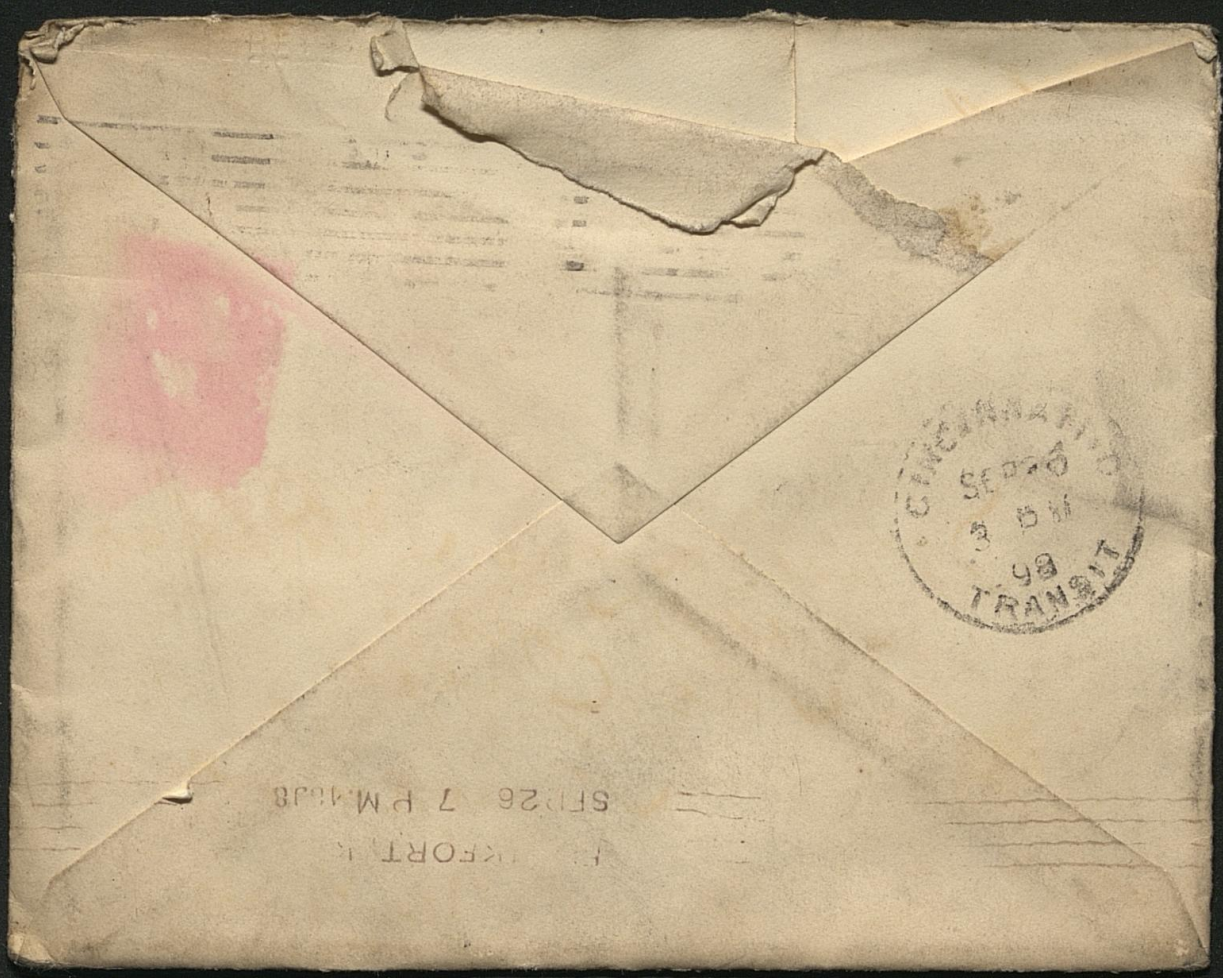
J. L. Smith  
Col. May O'Brien will tell you where of those photographs

COLUMBUS, OHIO  
SEP 26  
9-AM  
1898



Miss Lyma P. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky.





CINCINNATI OH  
SEPT 26  
7 PM  
TRANSIT

NEW YORK  
SEP 26 7 PM 1898

you, I will tell you.  
I had a most exciting  
time tonight. I went to  
town, in the car and  
just as I started to  
step off of the car  
it started off and threw  
me flat on the ground.  
I only skinned my hands  
a little, and as I fell  
in a mud puddle,  
I was almost covered  
with mud, it really  
frightened me, more

The Cliffs

Sep. 24<sup>th</sup> 1898

My dearest Lom,  
Your  
most welcome letters  
to Mama and my self,  
were received this morning,  
and I was so glad to  
hear from you, so often  
you know that, with-  
out telling you.  
I do certainly hope that  
Charlie can get back

think you can not get  
a leave of absence just  
now.

I received a letter from  
Miss Lettie Clay a day or  
so ago, and she asked  
me to present her regards  
to you, she also said  
some thing quite funny  
about Mrs. Harbison  
and my self, it is a  
fine joke. When she

into the 17<sup>th</sup> and as  
I have said before, I  
am dreadfully sorry,  
and disappointed, that  
I can not go back to  
Columbus with Pica,  
but Mama thinks, as  
I have been away from  
home so much this  
summer, that I had  
better stay in Frankfort  
for a while, I am  
so sorry, also that you

2  
Than any thing else  
Dizzie came home last  
night and I do not  
believe any of us, have  
stopped talking, for a  
second since her arrival  
she certainly has had a  
charming and interesting  
trip.

She saw Mr. Hardaway,  
not knowing his engagement  
was broken, she attempted

As I think there is going  
to be a Thunder storm  
so I will say good bye  
Mamma and all of me  
family send love to Charlie  
and your self and accept  
from me; the love  
for your self and believe  
me.  
your most sincerely  
Gert S. Pappas

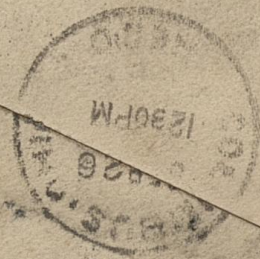
Giving him a little, but  
to tell her, that it was all  
broken off. Siggie was  
on the train with him.  
I think she said, he  
was on his way to Columbia.  
I sent you and Mr.  
Humphrey some pictures  
you took at Montauk.  
The ones that I left in  
East Hampton, have  
never arrived.

Lieut Thomas J. Smith  
Columbus Barracks  
Columbus  
Ohio.

ANKFORT, K.  
SEP 22  
53 1/2  
98



Mon Sept 26<sup>th</sup> 1898



worse to me, I know,  
than Pinnie or even Pin  
does to you.

I can not understand  
any how why you dislike  
the name, Pinnie. You  
know very well that your  
friends always will call  
you <sup>by</sup> that name. I am  
willing to call you Lynne if  
you do not call me Thomas.

I do not expect that  
the seventeenth will  
go to Cuba at all this  
winter. In any event, it  
is better to suppose that  
they are not to go.

Columbus Barracks, Ohio,  
Oct. 17th., 1878.

My dearest Lynne:-

Perhaps you did  
adopt the right name for  
me but if so, then use the  
wrong one for if there  
is any name I detest  
it is the name of Thomas.

Of course when my  
full name is used, I never  
care then if Thomas is  
used, but to address me  
by this name and omit  
my <sup>own</sup> ~~own~~ <sup>name</sup>, Smith, sounds



Did you ever hear the expression, "Common  
horse sense"? If so, you probably know that  
it is synonymous with such an expression as "I  
know them average intelligence."

It would seem then were we to endeavor to  
trace how such an expression originated that  
ample proof could be obtained to show that not  
only now, but even ages ago, it was generally  
conceded that horses possess a great degree  
of intelligence - certainly far in excess of  
that possessed by monkeys.

Do you remember the day that we saw  
that noble horse moving all alone with a  
load of clay and what a circuitous route he  
had to take from the pit to the brick factory?

as much intelligence  
as that horse we saw!  
Once in a while a  
monkey - the one I saw  
at Minerva Park was an  
example - possessed  
intelligence worthy of  
mention.

Miss Longstreet thought  
I spoke to her the  
other evening at Minerva  
Park so I am sorry  
I spoke about it afterwards.

You know that I told  
you the two cases you  
mentioned about my

For all we knew  
that same horse may  
have exercised great  
judgment in stopping  
at the place where the  
best quality of clay  
could be obtained.

I think of a monkey  
- even one of which you  
know continually exhibit  
their savage and greedy  
nature by biting and  
laying hold of every thing  
- animate objects in particular -  
within reach - that possessed

failure to speak were simply the products of  
yours, Miss Bonnell, and certainly of Miss  
Bennett's fertile imagination.

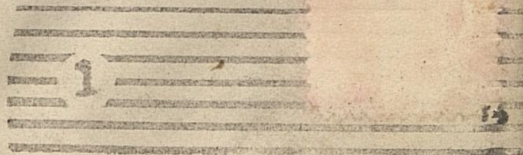
Your German friend evidently thinks you  
do not care when he dwells those plates for you.

You should have heard what Captain Clay  
said when I told him your remarks,  
especially the last one you made, about  
Susan.

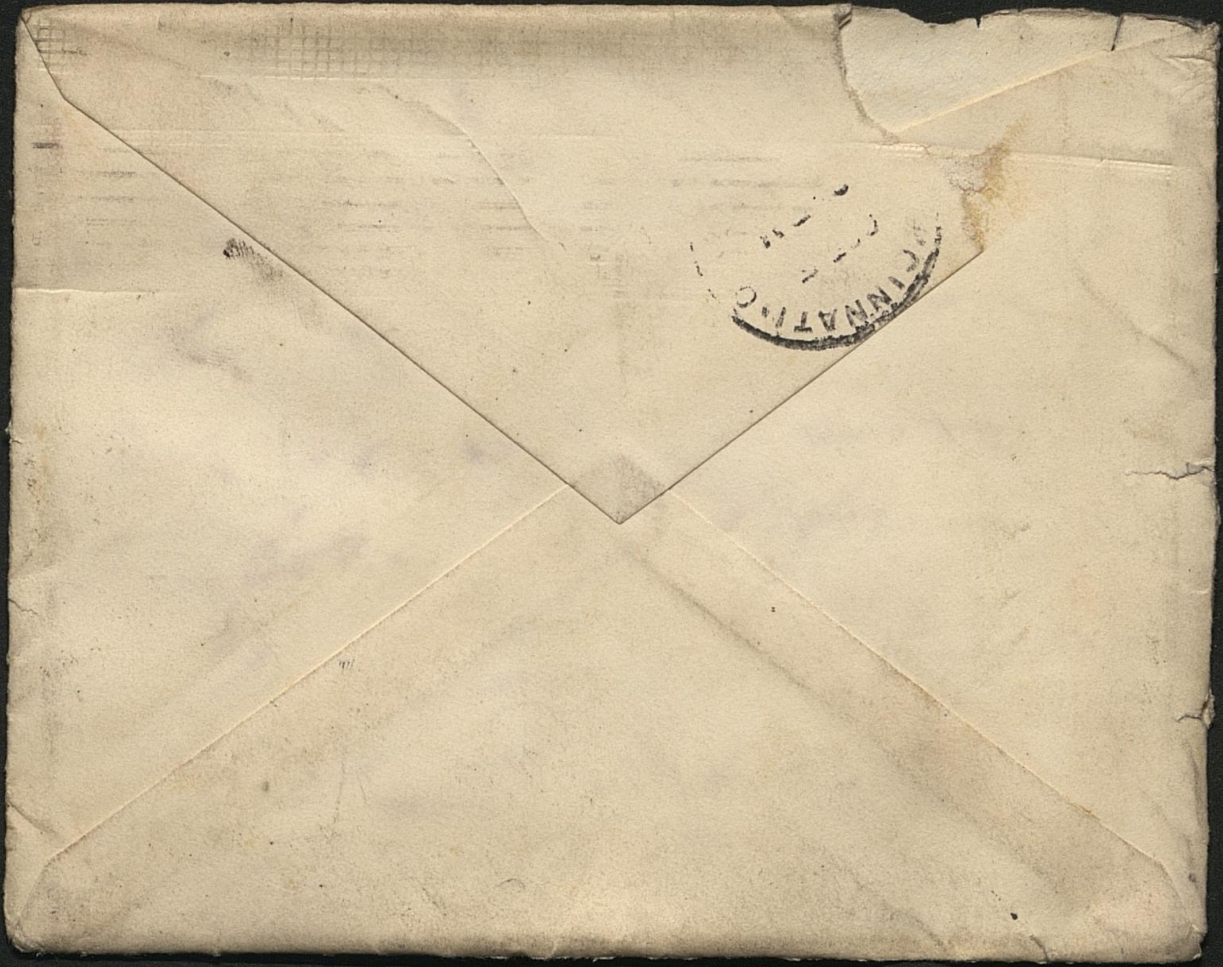
Captain Clay leaves tomorrow at 2 in  
this time know.

With love and best wishes I am  
Most sincerely,  
J. L. Smith

COLUMBUS, OHIO  
OCT 5  
9-AM  
1898



Miss Lync S. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky.



for the regiment to go to  
quell the Indian trouble,  
I would certainly want to  
go with the regiment.

There has been such a  
change in the condition of  
affairs that it seems now  
that the services of the  
regiment will not be  
needed and this is why I  
am glad.

Tell Captain Clay that  
his return for August was  
completed this date and  
will be verified and  
forwarded by me tomorrow.

Mrs. Pope - the "gossip"  
you would call her comes

Columbus Barracks, Ohio,  
Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>, 1898.

My darling Lynn:-

You notice too that  
I think this the much  
nicer way of addressing you  
and I am glad that you  
also dropped "dearest."

The newspapers have  
been asking for news here  
at different times throughout  
the day but there was nothing  
to give them.

The prospects for the  
regiment remaining seem  
very good and I am glad of  
it. Of course, were it necessary

here tomorrow.

Lieut. and Mrs. Hart came today.

The organization of the new companies has been completed such a short time ago, and for this reason they are not yet very well equipped so you may know what trouble their company commanders experience now in trying to get these new men in good enough shape to do duty in the field.

As I never yet have chosen quarters - at least not since my return to this post - I am at liberty to make my choice at any time in the future that I see fit. We will talk over the matter concerning quarters - you see I feel yet that I am to get that leave. When it is conceded that the Indian trouble is over - and tonight papers seem to indicate that it will soon be that way - there will be no time lost by me in getting that leave.

given it away.

He replied, "I know just where it is," and then I tried to look surprised but he added, "There is no question as to where I see Tommy."

Of course I knew exactly to whom he referred all the time but I tried to appear otherwise.

Tell Captain Clay that the saber he ordered at Pierce's, when I was with him, came today, and that all the officers who have seen it think the store in the place is very appropriate, and is concisely told and moreover that the style of, and the

No one could make a happier home for me than you, for, as I have said before you are dearer and sweeter to me than any girl I ever knew.

If your cook knew where my thoughts were all the time, she would think that Mr. Smith was "studying" some too.

Captain Brock called this evening and said he wanted to see that pen sketch I made at Mutaun Point. I. I.  
I replied that I had



workmanship on, the date is such that it will prove  
not only a handsome, but on account of its usefulness, a  
very acceptable present to the one for whom it is intended.

Some one in Pittsburg - some relative of Capt. Burns of  
this regiment - spoke to me over the telephone yesterday  
and asked if Captain Burns had been shot that day. How  
in the world such a rumor could start I do not know.

None of the seventeenth have been shot lately.

Mr. Hart is much better and Mr. Hartaway will  
soon be in good health but Mr. Perry's improvement is  
exceedingly slow.

Up to today it looked like I would not get to see my  
dear friends but now of all good will it seems I can yet  
see you soon. I will let you know the date that I can

come.

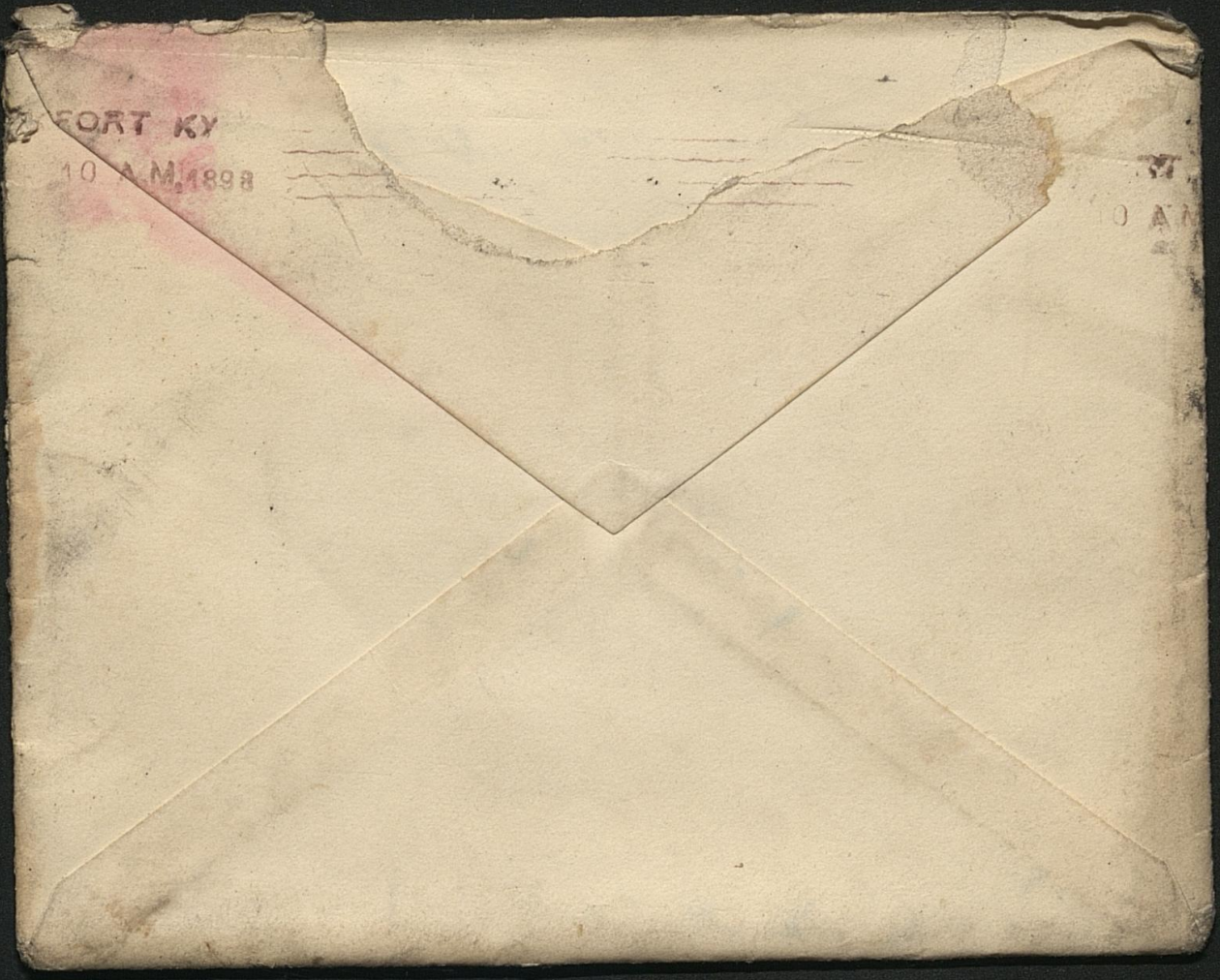
With kindest remembrances and best wishes and all  
the love this letter can bring, I am,

Yours most sincerely,  
J. L. Smith

COLUMBUS, OHIO  
SEP 13  
9-AM  
1898



Miss Lyne S. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky.



FORT KY  
10 A.M. 1898

ST  
0 A.M.

here the day I departed  
on leave of absence.

What a fine time the  
bachelors did have with  
me when I came to.

Breakfast this morn<sup>g</sup> wearing  
my hair parted in the  
middle! I shall continue

to wear it that way as  
it recalls to me the  
request of the sweetest  
and dearest girl I know.

I arrived in the post  
at 11:45 o'clock, P.M., and  
had not Mr. Hayward been  
awake at the time, I should

Columbus Barracks, Ohio,

Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>, 1878.

My dear darling Lync:-

Just as I told  
you, the sweet dear girl  
with whom I had such a  
very pleasant walk yesterday  
and how long it does seem  
to have been constantly in my  
thoughts ever since.

To begin my duties here  
again after four such pleasant  
days with you is anything  
but agreeable.

I found, upon my arrival,  
your sweet letter of the  
7<sup>th</sup> instant which came

have had some difficulty in getting into my quarters at all if the windows and doors were securely fastened or locked. and I had lost the key that all along I presumed was in my pocket. I do not care for the old key now for Mr. Hardaway has a key that answers very well for my purpose. The first five of his keys would not do and the sixth and last one was just what I wanted.

I talked with Miss Longstrein over the telephone for a short while today. She is coming to the hop tonight and I will get a good talk with her and will, if it is not too late, yet add some more to the list.

Company "A" of this regiment is to go to Fort Thomas, Ky., relieving the 1st Infantry, who go to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, I think.

darling girl with whom  
I walked yesterday  
afternoon

Mrs. Perry asked to be  
remembered and said she  
intends to write to you.

So thank Mr. and  
Mrs. Hatchitt again  
for me for the very  
pleasant way in which  
they arranged the day for

us. The sick people here  
are improving right along.  
Mr. Perry was out for  
two short walks today and  
is looking a great deal better.

The foot is just about  
like it was when I left  
it on Thursday before last.

I have seen comparatively  
few of the foot people  
since I returned. In  
fact Mrs. Perry is the  
only foot lady whom I  
have seen.

My eyes act as  
optical organs very much  
the same I presume as  
any good lens does but  
about the only image  
that is conveyed to my  
brain is that of the

I do intend leaving some room to write about  
the hop, a program of which I enclose herewith.

So now will you my darling sweet girl accept  
all the love - it really will take two places on  
this page to send what I want to go - You can and  
believe me Most sincerely  
J. S. Smith

After the hop

My darling girl:-

This letter was not ready for the mail gathered  
or rather collected at 12:30 P.M. but it will go in the  
early morning mail.

Am glad the hop is over. It was a very nice one  
but not so long as the former hop. Will tell you about it  
tomorrow in my letter.

Miss Langwith sends her love to you. I admitted the truth  
of what she has so frequently asked you about, namely an  
engagement and she wants you to write to her.

Miss Rogers asked kindly about you and today I did not deny  
to her what I do when she usually questions me.

A small space left but use it to convey lots and lots of  
love from your most sincerely  
J. S. Smith

COLUMBUS, OHIO  
SEP 29  
9-AM  
1898

1

Miss Lyne S. Peppers,  
Newtown,  
Scott County,  
Ky. Mr. Hatchett, Kentucky.



think the letter will  
come to me again.

I hope that you are  
not mistaken but that  
both you and Mrs. Pepper  
are as well as you think.

I presume that I am  
also very indifferent except,  
yes except, and that  
exception is whenever  
you are concerned.

Some body did say - I am  
the one - that you were  
mean which being interpreted  
signifies that you are  
the sweetest and the dearest  
girl and that I lack for  
words to tell how much I  
love you.

Columbus Barracks, Ohio,  
Nov. 19, 1898.

My dearest sweetest darling Lynn:  
Your very sweet  
letter that came today  
prevented my sending another  
letter to you at Old Point  
Comfort.

The one I wrote  
yesterday was sent to that  
address and I thought  
that it would get there just  
about one day before you  
arrived.

It was just filled with  
such great quantities of  
love as huge train-loads,  
mountains and even oceans  
of it, but, as I also put my  
own address on the envelope,

How sweet you were right when you did say that you would not tell me what you said the first evening I met you and what I said the evening at Mrs. Grumley's! "Mean" when used by me in reference to you is to be defined as sweet and darling.

I replied yesterday to Mrs. Hatchett's request to you to explain to me about calling me to the house again just before I left last Sunday.

You may not receive, at least for some time, the letter I sent you yesterday so I will say again that if any explanations are necessary there are due from me to Miss Laura Pepper to whom, if she does not so think, I offer thanks for the very pleasant outcome of the remark she made.

Moreover it gave me an opportunity to bid goodbye to and kiss again my own darling girl - just the dearest and the sweetest in the world.

of many not on duty  
her was given, for instance  
Captain and Mrs. Clarke,  
Mr. Bates ~~et cetera~~ in the  
following an old list of  
the officers.

The decorations - such  
as battle flags, bayonets  
rifles etc, were arranged  
with a great deal of  
haste and made every thing  
look quite military.

The whole affair was  
quite pretty.

One of Miss Bradford's  
sisters was maid of honor,  
her other sister and Miss  
Laura Roberts were brides-  
maids. Mr. Hardaway acted

2-  
Captain and Mrs. Clay <sup>me</sup> ~~says~~  
to send their love. Mrs.  
Clay said that she  
intended writing to you  
today but she would not  
get <sup>to do</sup> so but would send her  
love by me.

Susan was most  
energetic this evening, and  
also very talkative.

She amused herself for  
about an hour with  
some brass curtain rings.

The account given, in  
the papers, of "Pinnie" Roberts  
and Miss Bradford's  
wedding was somewhat  
amusing for in mentioning  
those present the names

as best man.

It would be useless for me to try to describe the hub given by the bachelors in the bachelors' building on Thursday evening.

Formal invitations bearing the names of Lieutenants Rose, Boniface, Croston, Hassaurek, Van Horn, Carr and chaperones Mrs. Duffer, Morrow and Johnson.

The reception of about one hour from 8:30 PM was followed by dancing until midnight <sup>from the dances</sup>

The bachelors evidently obtained a great many of the decorations, for Santiago Campaign relics were in evidence everywhere, and were very tastefully arranged with port flags, Japanese lanterns etc.

Captain Chan is going to Louisville tomorrow to be gone one day.

The quarters in which I now live are in fair repair. Some painting and wallpapering in the bath room and rear room, second floor will be needed.

Paper is needed in two rooms upstairs. I will send you samples of paper and then after you select the ones you wish, I can go ahead next month with all of them.

On Monday, I will send samples of filling and matting so you can make a selection.

As to the window shades let me know or if you prefer we can go with each other when we buy these and of course we can do that with everything you wish to be done that way.

As to furniture, rugs and things in dining room, we would want to go with each other to purchase.

Kitchen utensils I might

- 3 -

I will give the gas plumbing and fixtures, also picture moulding. If you wish any floors painted let me know which ones. The house is similar to the one formerly occupied by Captain Clay.

If we put filling or matting on the floors, there will be no need of painting them, and we can put rugs on the matting or filling.

Let me know where you would prefer filling and where matting in the halls and rooms.

get before hand.

There is no case where I would not rather have your own selection.

Concerning the list of those to whom I wish announcements ~~cards~~ <sup>sent</sup>, I find it difficult to ascertain the addresses of my former friends - and they form the major part - and their addresses in a month from now will be <sup>in many cases</sup> even different from now. I will try to send it but I can on Monday.

Mr. classmates here are married, and with few Mr. Michie gone, I will think a day or so regarding the best man.

I think it best for me to invite no best people for an adjutant, it seems I should invite none or all but will send announcement cards.

Write me about any thing you wish about our house for I want just exactly what you prefer.

With love - all I can send - to my dear sweet darling girl, I am most sincerely  
J. L. Smith

NOV 20  
11 PM  
98

Miss Lynn S. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky



FR.  
NOV

FO

MA 3

FRANK  
V2



Such a week as  
one had been - especially the  
first two or three days when  
there seemed to be so much  
unfamiliar work to do.

Perhaps this was more  
imaginary than real though for  
I could not, or rather desired to,  
concentrate my thoughts on  
the work here, all of which I  
must say seemed decidedly  
uninteresting to me.

I sent Miss "Teetee" Chan  
a box (a one lb. box) of hard  
bread, commonly called, by many  
soldiers, "hard tack" The kind  
now issued is different

Columbus Barracks, Ohio,

Nov. 3rd., 1898.

My dear darling Lynn:-

Just one week ago  
today, I was on the train -  
aware too of this fact, but  
not that I was near  
Cincinnati for my thoughts  
were centered near Newtown,  
just where they are now  
and the reason for it then  
and now is the same dear  
darling girl.

I wish I could have been  
with you yesterday on your  
trip from Frankfurt to Newtown.  
I wish I was with you.

from what we had the quality is exactly  
the same. You will remember that I promised, while at  
Montauk Point, L. I., to send this to Miss Clay. I think  
she will not like it although she said she liked the bread  
that is the little she had for that day.

The souvenier spoon that I told you I was going to  
give you has never been forwarded to me from Montauk  
Point, L. I. although I wrote some time ago to the  
express agent there asking him to forward it to me.

Mr. Reeves told me today that he intended to announce  
next Sunday his engagement to Miss Smith. You met her  
I think last year.

Captain Rogers goes away today on four days leave of  
absence. He had hoped to go with Captain Clay from  
here to Huntsville, Alabama for examination but Captain  
Clay's order came first.

With best wishes and kindest remembrance for Mr. and  
Mrs. Hatchitt and for yourself, my inexhaustible supplies of  
love, I am left

COLUMBUS, OHIO  
NOV 4  
9-AM  
1898

1

Miss Lyncie S. Pepper,  
Newtown,

Scott County,

to Mr. C. A. Hatchett, Kentucky.

CINCINNATI  
NOV 4  
2-30P  
18 O. 98

TRANSIT  
1

You said something about  
the marriage of little Pinnie  
Roberts, and followed that  
remark by me in reference to  
what I said at Mrs. Grumley's

I must say that you have  
me guessing again and taking  
the two statements together makes  
me think that perhaps I called  
you Pinnie, but then I am  
sure I did not do that unless  
we were joking about names.

I would love to know what  
I ever did say that would  
make you angry, still I did say  
I would not ask you this again  
so you may consider that I  
did not ask this, and you tell it  
when you said you would, that is, some

Columbus Barracks, Ohio,  
Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, 1898

My sweet darling Lynn:-

Your very welcome  
letter written the day of your  
arrival in Newton came today.  
How I wish I could have  
been with you when you came  
there from Frankfurt. I never  
would have noticed the fact  
that the car was slow in  
coming, and I know, from a  
similar trip I took with you,  
how pleasant it would have  
been.

I presume Miss Langstrath, or  
as you say, "Kathleen" is still  
and ever by looking for that promised  
letter for I had heard some  
time ago that I heard you say  
that you intended writing to her.

day."

There is hardly any use of betting on a certainty <sup>and</sup> for I would be betting on even about that hope for I did not enjoy it and would have preferred to have remained in my quarters, rested and spent the time thinking about you. You are the sweetest & dearest girl to me I know or ever will know and I love you so much that I think about you all the time, so I am certain, and felt so before I went to the ship, I did not enjoy a hope coming the day after I left you. The pleasantest part of that evening for me was spent with Miss Long street as she knows you so well that it was really a comfort to talk to her about you. The 4th Ohio Volunteers are to return here, that is, at Columbus on Sunday morning and I understand that the 17th is to parade with them when they arrive or the next day at least. I feel safe in saying now that Captain Clay will not have to move out of the quarters he has selected. I presume he has been transferred to this regiment, that is, that his transfer with Captain Sharp was effected, still I have not heard. With best wishes and lots and lots of love to my dear sweet darling girl, I am most sincerely  
Y. L. Smith.

P.S. The 17th brigade will parade when I am not present.

COLUMBUS, OHIO  
NOV  
9 - AM  
1898

1

Miss Lyma S. Pepper,  
Newtown,  
Scott County,  
of Mr. C. A. Hatchett Kentucky.

Be sure to have Mr. Hatchitt  
X call for them as I feel  
sure they must have reached  
the New Town, Oh's post office.

Captain Clay has gone to  
Huntsville, Alabama for examining

Surely now you will have  
time - you perhaps remember  
saying something to me about  
not having time for this - to  
get ready to come to Columbus  
with Captain Clay and Mrs.  
Clay.

I know I am selfish in  
me to ask you to come but all  
the same I am telling just  
the simple truth when I say  
that I would love to see  
you come - you dear sweet  
darling girl.

Columbus Barracks, Ohio,  
Nov. 2nd, 1848.

My dear darling Lyncie -

If your sister could  
have seen me writing each  
day to you, <sup>have known</sup> and how sweet I  
thought it of you to write  
even when you had not  
received my letters, she  
certainly would have thought  
that I have a very bad case  
too.

I addressed my letters to  
you at Newtown, Scott County,  
Kentucky, and in care of Mr.  
Hatchitt. I have written  
every day since I last saw you  
and wait you to get the letters  
for I sent you oceans of  
love in them.



You tell your sister, Mrs. Hatchitt, not to worry about you, that she ought to have eaten some of the fine fudge that you and I - you know now that I helped for I measured the butter and sugar - made last winter.

Well, just as you are, you are to me the finest sweetest girl there ever was, and I do not care who knows I think this.

Mr. Hardaway and Mr. Reeves moved today into the quarters formerly occupied by Mr. Durfee - the quarters on the west side of the post. Now since I made this last statement, I know you understand which quarters I mean. I moved today into the quarters formerly occupied by Mr. Wren but am taking my meals with Mr. Hardaway and Mr. Reeves. You see that there are now ~~two~~ messes managed by the bachelors here.

I hope - moreover I feel confident of it - that Captain Clay will pass a successful examination.

Give my love to all at the Cliff and your dear darling girl take all you can for yourself sincerely  
J. S. Smith

COLUMBUS, OHIO  
NOV 2  
9-AM  
1898

FRANKFORT  
NOV 2  
9:30 AM  
95

Miss Lync J. Pepper,  
The Cliffs, Newtown.  
Frankfort, Scott Co.  
Kentucky, Ky-

CINCINNATI  
NOV 2  
3-30P  
18 0. 98

TRANSIT  
1

GEORGETOWN, N.H.  
NOV  
7 PM  
1898  
REC'D

NOV 2 1898

NOV 2 1898

NOV 2 1898

see I assumed that  
the person who, not called,  
that is, "Pinnie", came to  
the phone.

I made up my mind  
to ask you if you received  
the kiss I told you I sent.

If you said yes, I  
intended to say that you  
had a vivid imagination  
and if you said no, then  
I intended to say that  
you had no imagination  
at all.

You do not know how  
glad I will be to see  
you next Sunday and  
Monday or if the Colonel

Columbus Barracks, Ohio,  
Dec. 7, 1898

My dearest darling Lyncie-

How near I did  
seem to you today and  
yet how far away I knew  
I was!

I called you Pinnie  
too - partly through the  
meanness and just to see  
what you would say.

I asked Mrs Pepper  
if Lyncie was at home and,  
if so, if I could speak  
to her over the telephone.  
Almost immediately after  
I asked this, I heard her  
call out "Pinnie". I'm

wants me to stay over Sunday only, then I will  
see you Saturday night. You know that in  
any event I am to telegraph Mr. Hatchitt, in  
ample time beforehand, the time I will be in Georgetown.

The banquet at the Great Southern Hotel  
tonight will be long held in fond memory by  
the officers of the seventeenth. In Town  
feature it not unusually pleasant for all of us.  
Enclosed you will find a list of the toasts

proposed.  
Sunday (unless I arrive in New Town Saturday  
night) can not come quick enough to suit me.  
I shall be simply delighted to see, and talk  
with, you and Mrs. Pepper then. My thanks  
are now due both Mr and Mrs Hatchitt. Will  
you <sup>express</sup> them for me and express my great appreciation  
with more love to my own dear sweet precious darling  
girl than I know how to send. I am  
Most sincerely,  
J. D. Smith



Miss Lync S. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky

of baggage which in my  
case is 1800 pounds.

Officers families are  
permitted to go with the  
officers

No date is yet fixed for  
our departure and I do not  
think we will go much  
before February first.

In the same mail I  
sent you some photographs  
taken in Cuba. The  
unmounted ones are just the  
same as the mounted ones.

Some time ago I stated  
that Mrs. Clay was going  
to write to you at once, then

Columbus Barracks, Ohio,  
Dec. 17th, 1898.

My dearest darling Lync:-  
The absorbing topic  
here today was a telegram  
sent from the War department  
to Headquarters of the department  
in which we are serving.

I enclose herewith a  
copy of this telegram  
From it you will see  
that a number of matters  
that were important to all  
officers are now settled.  
We are permitted to  
take the full allowance

late, I changed my remark to "soon" and now I  
will say that I saw her writing today and she  
told me that she was writing to you, so I feel  
quite sure you will get her letter in the same  
mail with this one

The enclosed clipping will tell you something  
about the german given by the bachelors on last  
Thursday evening. I did not go so personally  
can not say about the german

Just one week from toam I expect to come  
over

Captain Clary has some anxiety about his transfer  
but I think there is no need of it as I believe he  
is absolutely certain to remain with the seventeenth.

The enclosed <sup>copy of</sup> telegram naturally made him anxious  
though with all of the love that it is possible to send to  
my dear sweet precious darling girl, I am  
Most sincerely  
J. L. Smith



## TELEGRAM.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,  
December 15, 1898.

Commanding General,  
Department of the Lakes,  
Chicago, Illinois.

By direction of the Secretary of War the Fourth and Seventeenth Infantry have been selected for service in the Philippine Islands. The date of embarkation and the port of sailing have not yet been decided and depend upon transportation facilities which may be available. Report will be made of the name, rank and length of service of men who in the surgeon's opinion are too ill to make the journey, and of all married enlisted men and other enlisted men who have less than three months to serve and who do not intend to re-enlist, with a view to their transfer or discharge. Officers and enlisted men will be permitted to take the full amount of baggage allowed in change of station. Officers and non-commissioned staff officers will be permitted to take their families on transports but will be required to pay for meals. Mounted officers may take their horse. It is impossible to state the duration of the tour of service of this character at the present time but preparations should be made with a view to at least two or three years service before returning to the United States. It is not the intention to send additional wagon transportation to Philippines.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL MILES:  
H. C. CORBIN,  
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES.  
Chicago, Illinois, December 16, 1898.

Official copy respectfully furnished the Commanding Officer 17th Infantry, Columbus Barracks, Ohio, for his information. Report will be made to these Headquarters as above indicated.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL BACON:  
G. B. DUNCAN,  
Assistant Adjutant General.



Miss Lyne S Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky.



FRANKFORT, KY.

A. MITCHELL

FRANKFORT

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been given us, and still be  
ready to start before Feb<sup>y</sup>  
first.

I feel convinced that  
we will not start before  
that date, and have  
arranged for our railroad  
tickets, believing that  
we will have time to  
carry out our trip as  
contemplated.

There are two presents  
here for us, one, a set of  
cut glass consisting of  
water bottle, fruit (salad or  
berry) bowl, sugar and creamer,  
presented by Lieut<sup>ing</sup> & Mrs. Perry.

Columbus Barracks, Ohio,  
Dec. 18th., 1898.

My dearest sweetest darling Lync  
Your sweet letter  
written yesterday, the day  
my sweet darling girl  
returned from Louisville,  
came today.

Before I go further,  
let me correct the rumor  
Mary Jackson sent.

No time is yet stated  
for the departure of the  
regiment, and I do not  
see how we can comply  
with instructions that have

The other, a large wolf skin carriage robe, given by  
Lieut Hardaway, he, of course at the time of its presentation  
a few weeks ago, not thinking that the Regiment would  
go to Manila. It is a nice one all the same and we  
will get to use it as we are not going to stay in the  
Philippines always.

Do you know that Mrs. Clay, although she  
has written that letter to you, has not yet mailed  
it? I promised to mail it - rather I asked if I might -

and do you know I left there this evening without  
thinking about it. My thoughts were elsewhere then -

was with my own darling girl, the dearest, the sweetest  
and the most darling, in every way, of any in the world.

The L. & C. R. R. has some change that takes effect today  
so I will later let you know by telegram the time of my arrival.

My desk is <sup>higher</sup> higher than my chair that my writing will  
run "up hill". I have shown love all along the little lot of hills  
that the lines of writing make, and in each I send an inexhaustible  
supply of my love to my own dear sweet darling girl.

Most sincerely  
J. L. Smith

COLUMBUS, OHIO  
DEC 19  
9-AM  
1899

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Miss Lyma S. Pepper,  
The Cliffs,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky.

HANKFORT, KY.  
10 15 12 30 P.M. 1898

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With all of the love  
that my own darling  
man can accept  
I am.

Most sincerely,

Wm. S. Pepper

The Cliff  
Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> 1883

My dearest darling Louie  
I wish

that I had the time  
to write to you as long  
a letter as I would  
like to write.

Indeed the news about  
Mr. Avenhine, Mrs.  
Devere and Mr. Pitcher's  
weddings being as soon  
is quite a surprise  
to me but quite a  
delightful surprise.  
Several people met  
me on the street  
this morning and



perfectly delighted to see any of  
them that can come over!

Well Mrs. M. is a man  
with old scotch but

I must write a line or two  
to Din before dinner.

I certainly would be very much  
disappointed if your sister,

Mrs. Martin would not be  
present at our wedding, how  
ever I do hope that she  
will be able to be here

said they would give  
any thing they possess  
to have the Channel  
that I have to go to  
Manila. I really think  
it will be delightful  
from all that I have  
heard about it.

However Manila =  
not the only thing  
as I would be with  
you.

I am so glad that  
Mr. Bates, Mr. Hardaway  
and Mrs. Davis can  
come over for our  
wedding and I wish that  
Mrs. Bricker could also  
come. We will be

FRANKFORT, KY.  
DEC 22  
5 30 P.M.  
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Lieut Thomas P. Smith  
Adjutant. 17th U.S. Inf.  
Columbic Barracks  
Columbic  
Ohio

