

5th F.A
May 22 - Wed.

Dear Father -

Well I'm still here in the same place - but think I am improving a bit - tho' am not yet satisfied with myself. Have had two visits from my C.O. and today he said my horses were 100% better than on his first visit. You see I'm specializing on horses now - spend practically all my time picking mange scabs - its just the sense of Doc's old saying "If you pick it, it'll never get well" With mange you have to pick it. I am certainly learning the horse game - and while it doesn't sound very exciting, it has to be done by somebody, and I'm doing my best at the job. It is a comfort to be able to register some improvement. I was dumped into a mess of ruined horses and told to get them into shape and I think will be able to pull most of them out.

I have about 75 men including the Regimental Band. My greatest musical

ambition is at last realized - I feel like
 Sousa. Of course I don't wield the baton -
 the Big Stick is mine. It's a blame
 good band too.

Have seen a little more of the war
 since I wrote you. Have been up forward
 several times and had them settling
 over me and have been bombed - just
 like London & Paris. It's getting to be
 quite civilized up here these moonlight
 nights.

Received the telegram you sent to
 Rublman. We had the order some time
 ago but I didn't think it worth while
 to send for anything. It takes so
 long to make the round trip that
 things might not be needed when
 they arrive. However I may send
 for some things. Most articles are
 obtainable here somewhere. We have

-3-

a good Q.M. service and they carry nearly everything necessary - so will be able to get along.

The letter from P.P.C. came today from Claremont are the only one I have received since coming here. I think there must be a bunch still down at A.P.O. 718 - and I have written for it. They promised to forward it when we left - but nothing done yet.

Monday made just 4 months since I left N.Y. - I'll be entitled to a stripe soon. The time has gone very fast - but it seems an awfully long time since I left Fullerton. Maybe it seems just as long to you.

We are having beautiful weather now - though it's a bit hot for "Dus fold" woolen shirt and bloomers. We are all looking for the Q.M. to issue some summer clothes.

I think I will enclose an order for one or two things. I wrote to Ethel sometime ago for some filler sheets for a small notebook. If they haven't come you might send about 200. Also I want a new fountain pen. This one has been a perfect horror for me. Please get one with a good sized barrel - and please don't get a self-filler. This point is about right - just about medium - get a smooth one. Those that screw down into the barrel - "non-leakable" are about the best - because the pen is always kept moist.

Send my May pay vouchers to be paid to the F.M. Bank this. Ought to arrive sometime in June. You might check up on it. I expect my account there is pretty sick. If there is enough - you might slip

about 23.00 to the Sunday School
for old times sake.

Received a beautiful letter from
Mrs. Rees - but haven't had time to answer
it yet. She asked me to write to the S.S.
but I haven't had anything worth
writing about. Just tell them that I
always think of them - and never see a
little French kid without wishing I
was back there when Jim Stanley and
not "the lieutenant". You see the collected
men always say "Will the lieutenant
wish this" or "Does the lieutenant know
that". At first I had to pinch myself
everytime but now I'm quite hardened.

Also please drop into the various
lodges and tell them I'm always
remembering them. There are so many
things to miss over here - and it looks
like a long time yet.

Well I guess I'll call this a

letter and just. It's just about
better.

Tell everybody hello - I'd like
to write them all but this isn't time
Am hoping every day for some word
from them.

Love to Ethel, Charles & Bill and
to you more than all.

Stan.

Lieut. W. Chapman

5th F. A.

H. E. F.