Letter from Andrew Wadsworth (Feb. 19, 1899):

In the field
Feb 19th [1899]

Dear Sister,

I had a letter partly written to you over two weeks ago but we have had a merry time here that you have probably heard about, so I didn't get a chance to finish it things have somewhat quieted down so I will try and tell a little of our experiences in the last two weeks two weeks ago last night the war[?] began on our outpost was 2[?] when one of our men shot a lieutenant of the insurgents who persisted in annoying him by advancing on our part of the disputed ground that is between the outposts and everything seemed to be fixed for a grand hurrah as the echo of the shot had not ceased then it sounded like a huge corn popper all along our line the Regiment was out and the Co on the way to their[?] different locations in about a quick time as could be done in the dark things continued to be interesting till about midnight when the firing ceased for a few hours several of the boys were wounded and several killed. And we all prayed for daylight so we could get it back at them about sunrise we opened up all along the line with rifles and a battery of Utah artillery. We pounded them for several hours and finally got them to moving back we had to cross a bridge to keep after them, which was done when things were pretty warm and then commenced a running fight of about a mile and a half uphill and down over the roughest country possible and well fortified at every turn but we didn't stay till we had advanced to the Deposito or water reservoir which was Sunday noon and then we tumbled down and rested we could see the natives still going back towards the hills. We rested[?] at the reservoir until Monday noon and then started after them again. Had only just started when their sharpshooters began to ping[?] away at them we skirmished and fought and shelled them for about 4 miles Monday afternoon and evening until they reached the pumping works which was the main objective of our point of attack. But say it was a hot time going over some of the ground and hills the boys had to walk over was heavily barricaded[?] and swarmed[?] with the indians but we didn't do a thing to them. The next day the burial party planted 84 of them there we lost a man killed and three wounded in our Co. and we feel that every man of ours that’s lost is worth more than the whole damned island but what can we do about it. We don’t know what we are fighting for hardly. The regiment is camped by companies[?] along its main road over which we fought and we had scrap most every day two officers and three men were wounded yesterday in a skirmish that lasted about an hour we change the order of living some as when we go to bed we put on all our clothes lay down and probably get woke up a dozen times during the night by shots or reports of attacks which don’t come while writing this I can hear the 1st Californias busy about 3[?] miles to the south of us shooting and burning and lord only knows where it will end they expect more U.S. troops about march 1st and then they want to let us get at them[?] that’s all we ask, but we have lots of fun

Source: http://teachinghistory.org/best-practices/examples-of-historical-thinking/25471
among all the hard work there didn't a man of us hardly eat or sleep[?] from the holiday till the next Wednesday and you had ought to see the bewhiskered gang we are but they say the 1st[?] Neb. are all ok when they come to a seat[?] since we have been camped we have been living on all the good things the land affords [?] pork chicken sweet lettuce[?] radishes[sic] bananas and other goodies but they have shut down on foraging so we have to be careful how we loan[?] things the Colonel has an eagle eye but he is the only boy for us you can put that down as no lie several of the noncommissioned officers have been promoted by a commission for bravery which I am sure they deserve srsgt Curtis of Co. E. had his hand badly shattered by a mauser is one of them I believe. A fellow took a picture of our camp[?] yesterday will try and find a few pictures to remember it by. The boys found a sack of peanuts when out[?] looking round[?] and we roasted them in our[or an?] Coffe[?][sic] roasts and they were so good but we feel so jolly when mail comes had one last week was better than a diner[sic] with pie got a book Paul Wagener[?] from a fellow's sister in Kansas. We expect our X-mas boxes on the [?] as the [?] candies the first of March the boys are getting all kinds of souvenirs with every way of Remington and mauser rifles, bayonets, and small trinkets of different kinds but its [?] trinkets is a fact them[?] around[?] the insurgents got a bit of reinforcements from the hills armed with bows and arrows and shields I was nosing around in the woods one day and found two of the shields which with he guts[?] me for halves[?] if I can get this home I aint as fat as I was by a good deal and my old nose shines with sunburn, but [?] otherwise am all o.k. will close for this time with lots of love to you and all the rest. excuse shortcomings in writing and spelling

Andrew
2nd Lt. Co. B. 1st neb vol
thanks for the stamp
In the field  Feb 19th 99

Dear Sister,

I had a letter partly written to you over two weeks ago but we had a marly line here that you have probably heard about so I didn't get a chance to finish it. Things have somewhat quickened so I will try and let a little of our experiences in the last two weeks two weeks ago last night. It was before an army outpost so when one of our men got a detachment of the insurgents an arm of the defeated grand the effort and everything seemed to the shot half past ceased than it sounded like a large cannon all along an host. The different locations of about a quick time as could be done in the last three
continued by the interesting talk about midnight when the firing ceased for a few hours around the town was surrounded and several killed and we all prayed for daylight so we could get back to them about sunrise we found all along the line with rifles and a holding of Utah artillery we landed them for several hours and finally got them to moving back and had to cross a bridge in kip after the train which was done when they were pretty warm and this commenced a running fight of about a mile and a half and killed and done over the roughest country possible and well fortified of every time but we'd sort of

by we had advanced to the defenses or what was Sunday noon and then we landed down and rested and we could see the natives still going back towards the hills and then of the reservoir with Monday noon and then started after them again had only just started when their shrapnel began to flying away at them we shelled them for about 4 miles

Monday
Monday afternoon and evening with them they reached the pumping works which was the main objective of their point of attack. It was a hot time going in some of the ground and half the boys had to walk over was heavily barricaded and swarmed with the Indians but we did not see any of them. The next day the burial party planted 4 of them where 2 men were killed and there wounded in our line and we had lost every man of ours that's 90 out of 900. We don't know what we are fighting for and we don't know what we are doing about it. We don't know what we are doing. The regiment is camped by Ambrose cloth the main road over which we fought and we had some most every day two officers and two men were wounded yesterday on a skirmish that lasted from about 10 to 10. We changed the order of living room so that we had two beds. We sat on all our clothes by day and put off all of them at night and by the times
during the night by shots or reports of
armies which dont come while writing this
I can hear the 1st Californias sing about
8 miles to the south of us shooting and
burning and dont know when it will be
They expect more his troops about next
1st and time they went & we got at
them told us all we ask but we have done of
ours among all the hard work the d..st
a mean of us hardly eat or sleep from the
Saturday til the next Wednesday and you
had ought to see the best band gang at
and had to say this is not at all ok
when they come & as we have
been camped we have been living on
all the food things the land affords
not pot chicken sweet lettuce radish
bananas and other foods but they
had shut down on us for going so
we had to careful how we been

the Colonel has an eagle eye
For no few

who do a

blessed work

and feel

a love

for

the

sight

of

E.T.

to

see

an

on

the

man.

of

a

man.

today.

You

are

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.

of

a

man.
I found the pack of much less joy and setting out kinds of curiosities with any of Remington and Remora rifles brought, and small huts of different kinds but its knoll is big, a hill around its compact and a lot of reinforcements from the hills covered with trees and rooms and shields. I was moving around in the words one day and found two of the shields which will be quite nice for relics. If you can get them home.

I went as far as I was by a good day and my old mustache with sunburn, but unless I am all a.k. will clear for the trip with lots of love to you and all the rest. Gems, shorts, coming in early.

Laid Oct 13, 1948

Thanks for the letters.

C.B.