

Fort Clark July 4th 1876

Dear Mother,

This is scarcely a pleasant way of spending the Glorious Fourth in an Army Hospital with a fever. But it will all be the same a hundred years hence. Since my last (by Larry) on Friday last I have kept along about the same—gaining a little strength perhaps—the fever remains about the same, and the doctor thinks it will have to run its course of 21 days—which will be a little less than a week longer. If it is only a week longer I can stand it, but I am getting pretty tired of lying on my back. I manage to keep up my appetite, and eat everything that is brought me.

Breakfast is brought you at 6 o'clock—Tea—milk toast, egg & raw meat.

After that the steward comes in and takes your temperature with a thermometer (i.e.—finds out how much fever you have)

This temperature with others he marks down and takes to the Doctor. The Doctor makes his rounds at 9 o'clock.

The next excitement is dinner at 12 o'clock—Tea—raw beef—boiled chicken, chicken soup & pudding.

Then comes supper at 5 o'clock—and the day is over. The days are very long and tiresome. One can't sleep much, and altho' [sic] we have all the Illustrated Papers to look at, for the sake of my Eyes I read very little.

Larry and Bob have been most kind to me. I know it is hard for them [to] remain idle here—but they have not shown it in the least.

Morgan and Bob went off Saturday on another two weeks trip.

We have made arrangements to purchase 800 sheep to be delivered and paid for in July or August just as we choose. So you see we have taken our first decided step.

If we can find 200 more good ones we may buy them as 1000 is a more paying number than 800. We have several good places to put them—and next spring hope to be able to report a good stock of lambs.

As soon as I am able to leave here I think I shall go to San Antonio in order to transact some pecuniary matters for the boys.

I believe I have neglected to acknowledge letters as follows—Marys [sic] June 14<sup>th</sup>—Libby's May 26— and Belle May 30—all of which, believe me, gave me much pleasure.

Love to all

Jos Tweedy