

Fishermans Point  
Caimanna, Cuba

Aug. 9th, 1905

My dear Florie

Yours and Louella's letters came this  
A. M. so glad to get them. Letters from home are  
my only real pleasure here, so knowing this I hope  
you won't spare them. This is a very lonely  
place, we are away off from everywhere. High  
mountains on all around, but no one lives on  
the U. S. territory except employes of the Gov-  
ernment and they are very few so far. The  
U. S. own about 10 square miles of land here,  
quite a big piece eh. Then a six war ships at  
anchor in the bay in front of our house - now  
their lights look very pretty at night and they  
seem to bring up otherwise deserted bay. I am  
so glad you are so comfortably fixed Florie,  
and I hope you will keep real well this sum-  
mer and not have a spell like you had last  
year. I got a letter from Sue yesterday in which  
she says she and Edna are well and getting  
fat also that they were expecting Holbrook  
and Louella down for the first week in this  
month so expect they are all there by this time  
and enjoying themselves together. I wish I could  
be with them, would not that be fine. Don't  
you tell me about those peaches, my mouth  
sure watered when I read about them. We get  
bananas, mangoes, pines and plantains so have  
fruit too, but nothing can touch a good ripe  
peach in my estimation. I will tell you all  
about my travels when I see you again. Would  
take too much paper and ink to do justice to  
the subject. I will try and run up to see you  
when I return home in October. So love plenty

of good things to eat when I come. We have  
very good fare in our mess here, get our groceries  
from N. Y. on the steamer twice a month, we  
get fresh meat, fruit and vegetables from the  
city of Guantanamo which is 15 miles from  
the town of Caimanera at the head of the Bay. We  
have a naphtha launch which makes daily  
trips to Caimanera for mail and marketing. There  
are 13 Americans here, I mean members of our  
mess, all jolly fellows, so we have lots of fun  
among our selves, you see we are thrown entirely  
upon our own resources for amusement. You  
speak of my going to church. I wish there was  
a church here that I could go to. There are no  
churches of any kind nearer than Guantanamo  
and that is twenty miles away. Last Sunday  
I read all the forenoon and after dinner wrote  
letters and went ~~bathing~~ ~~and~~ ~~fishing~~. I do not go  
out very far to swim as large sharks abound  
and I am dreadfully afraid of them. And be-  
sides the sharks they have a large fish called  
"Danacouta" which is said to be even more  
dangerous to swimmers. I go in bathing every  
day, sometimes twice a day. The beach is not  
so far from our fire door, beautiful  
clear water and a flat sand floor so the  
facilities for bathing are fine. I will not write  
to Louella this time as she is no doubt at home  
on this. Lill's next letter will tell me and I will  
write her there. Give my love to Mother, Squin  
and the other gals. Tell Minnie I sent her a con-  
gratulatory card today. Hope she continues to improve &  
will soon be herself again. Give my regards to  
Minnie Martin too. Write me again soon.

Your fond brother  
James.