



Army Christian Commission
OF THE
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
Young Men's Christian Associations,
3 WEST TWENTY-NINTH STREET,
NEW YORK CITY.

WILLIAM B. MILLAR,
SECRETARY.

In Camp Tampa Fla.
June 18, 1898

Dear Mamma:

I am well.

Shirts (2), drawers and band,
arrived O.K. I have just
spent my last cent or rather
dollar To have one of my
front teeth quieted - Dr. Cow-
art on Franklin St. - he
took out a thimble full
of matter, had to take out
old filling, put in by
Tommy Songster, it occurred
10 minutes ago. I am in
rooms of Y.M.C.A. I wrote
you a card from here the
other P.M. My company
is on guard. I am free till
morning. I have not slept for

Mr. Ritchey sends regards. He got a letter from his home.

Two nights on account of that tooth. I've got to go again Monday to have it finished - another "William" - where it will come from, I don't know. Regardless of what the papers say, the food is miserable, for 6 days I have been living on one meal per-day, having to buy that one. Once in a while we get something good. Very seldom. Coffee rank; have not touched any for 10 days, except to taste it. Before your letter came I had to buy drawers and thin black shirt, now I have plenty of those and towels etc., ~~under~~-shirts are not much good here - too hot. Heat here is heat. Between 10 and 5 you can hardly move.

We think of home — then stop^{and} think again —
take a long, long breath and try to
stop thinking.



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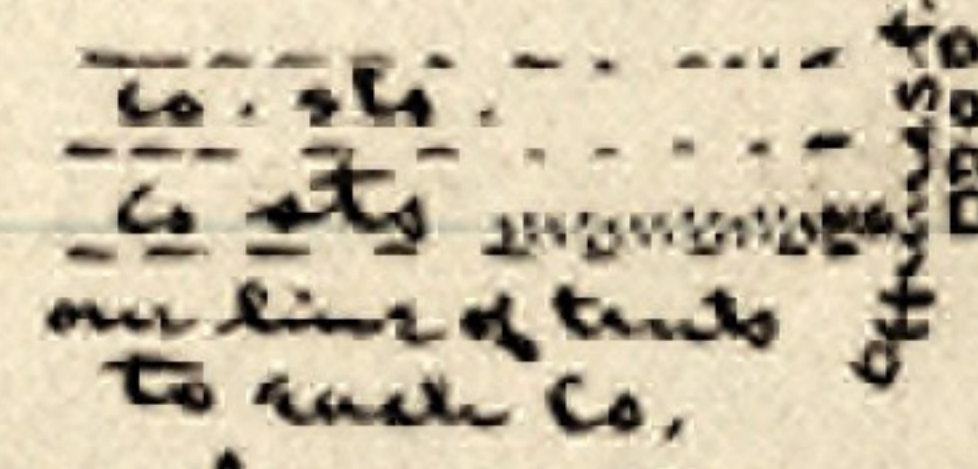
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you can't eat stop
and not when you
think of your own
dining table,
In Camp

Love to everybody.

no - I'm not homesick or blue but mighty lonesome. 189

other hardware. Perhaps you
read of stampede the other night.
That, showed what the companies
were. The boys were all asleep.
I was writing when I heard the
peculiar roar of the horses hoofs.
I knew what it was, and proceed-
ed - in my blue shirt - to the captain's
tent and awakened him. A moment
later came the crash of the fence
and the cry of the sentinel "guard
no. 6" followed by the "bang" of
his rifle sounding the alarm.
In an instant all was confusion,
the trumpets sounded the call
"To Arms" and men came springing
from their tents to answer their
first call at night. In 30 seconds

I had on pants, shoes - (unlaced), hat and belt. another 30 seconds and my men were in line and I was calling the roll - that quieted the boys. Meanwhile my cooks with excellent presence of mind started large fires to keep off the rushing animals. Others followed their example and camp was safe on the coral side, But the horses circled the camp and entered the officers street, and came plunging down it.  they passed within 2 yards of me, and the right of our company. But my boys never moved, not a man. The Co. in front broke and ran back into our street. But my men are men.

We expect another stampede anytime as some-one is keeping the mules excited at night, - if they get loose - well - I hope not, as I said Tampa is bum but I'll write more this P.M. and tell more about it. Please write and tell every-body to, too. I'm broke. can you help me at all. Its a long way to Tampa & back.

Tell papa I'll have card ready.



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Our good boys like me better than
ever. But there is one man who if I
see turn around in battle I'll
shoot right away - he thinks I'm
down on him and is ^(so he is) ~~being~~ ¹⁸⁹ ~~wait till he~~
threatens over more, I'll have him court-martialed.
all the boys dislike him for his actions toward me.
~~but I'm O.K. now fear.~~

Some one wrote to Wash. papers
about plentiful fruit, etc. It
was a lie. Everything is
very high. The fruit is
very poor - green and small.

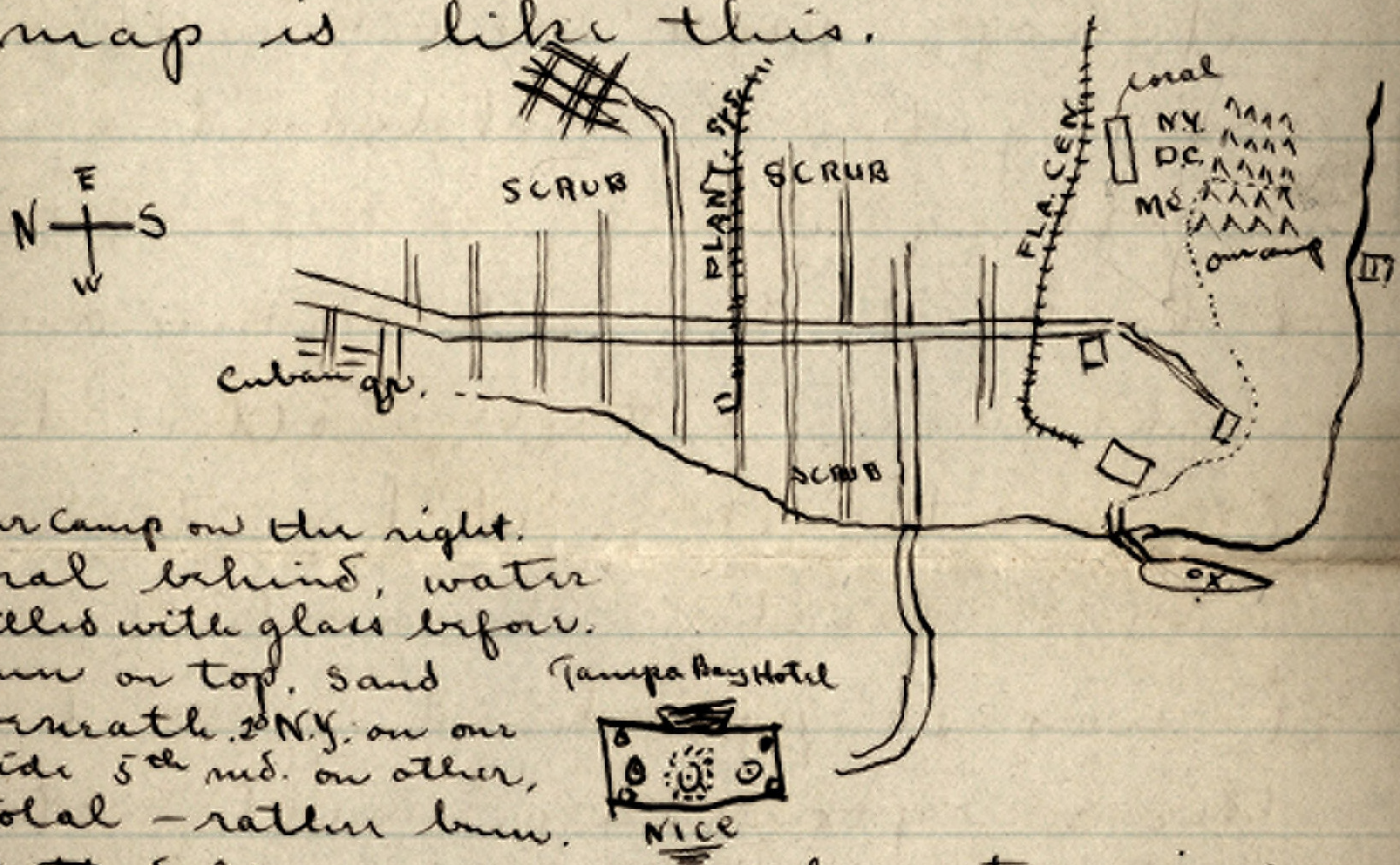
I hope papa's heel will
soon get well. I didn't say
any-thing about it before, but
I took 1 cubic inch of my own
right heel out, the other day.
It was terrible. I had to walk.
But I treated it carefully and
it has stopped hurting and
the Surgeon says will not
bother me any-more. My
tooth feels 200000000% better
now than it did 20 min. ago.
So everything seems brighter, or

a M&S man was shot this a.m.
accident.

as this is Fla. — shadier, which
means cooler and nicer.

My arm is getting very well
thank you, swelling all gone
except in immediate vicinity
of wound. I'm glad it was
done — also glad that it is
over.

Tampa is, collectively speak-
ing, a **BUM** place. I to
map is like this.



Our camp on the right.
Coral behind, water
filled with glass before.
Sun on top, sand
beneath. 20 N.Y. on one
side 5th md. on other,
total — rather low.

dotted line — the way I go to swim,
old sunken tug(X) water very salt, 20 ft
deep at tug. bottom good — informal
assemblies morning and night.
The water in front of camp is shallow
and filled with shells, hoop iron, glass and