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## Documents and Notes: Letters of Major Hann

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## Notes and Documents: Letters of "Major" Hann

*edited by* Paul S. Losch

**LETTER #1: Bridgeton (NJ) Daily News, April 11, 1895**

**A Captain in the Cuban Army  
A Bridgeton Boy's Undertaking  
He Has Entered the Service of the Cubans in their Fight for  
Liberty and Writes About it to the "News"**

In Camp near Nuevitas, Cuba, April 3, 1895

Having arrived here last night and entered the service of the Cubans in their noble fight for liberty, I thought that perhaps some of my old friends in Bridgeton would like to hear from me through the columns of your paper.

We left Florida near Punta Rassa on April 1<sup>st</sup> and by exercising considerable ingenuity we managed to elude the Spanish cruisers and landed near here last night, the 2<sup>nd</sup>. We have in camp here at present two companies of infantry fully armed and equipped. We are expecting reinforcements in a few days when we expect to take the field against the Spanish with a full regiment.

There is not much doubt that the whole island will be in full revolt against the Spanish before the middle of June. We are well armed and equipped, having brought over with us one thousand Winchester rifles and fifty thousand rounds of ammunition and expect to receive as much more before the 10<sup>th</sup> of April.

I have been made captain of Company A, under the command of Col. Pietro Aretino, 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Cuban Volunteers. We expect

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to take the field about the 10<sup>th</sup> of April and commence an active campaign against the enemy.

We have a good secret service and are kept fully informed of the plans and movements of the Spaniards. We shall probably fight on the defensive rather than the offensive until we are better organized.

Well, I will close, hoping that you will see fit to publish this, being from an old Bridgeton boy. I am,

Respectfully yours,

F. P. HANN

P.S. I will try, as much as circumstances will permit, to keep you posted in regard to our movements and engagements.

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| <i>Bridgeton (NJ) Dollar Weekly News</i> , April 13 | <i>Duluth (MN) News-Tribune</i> , April 14       |
| <i>Cedar Rapids (IA) Evening Gazette</i> , April 13 | <i>Fort Worth Gazette</i> , April 14             |
| <i>Minneapolis Journal</i> , April 13               | <i>Louisville Courier-Journal</i> , April 14     |
| <i>New Orleans Picayune</i> , April 13              | <i>Milwaukee Journal</i> , April 14              |
| <i>New York World</i> , April 13                    | <i>Newark (OH) Sunday Advocate</i> , April 14    |
| <i>Winona (MN.) Daily Republican</i> , April 13     | <i>Portland Morning Oregonian</i> , April 14     |
| <i>Saginaw (MI.) News</i> , April 13                | <i>San Antonio Daily Light</i> , April 14        |
| <i>Americus (GA) Times-Recorder</i> , April 14      | <i>Sioux City (IA) Journal</i> , April 14        |
| <i>Chicago Tribune</i> , April 14                   | <i>Aberdeen (SD) Daily News</i> , April 15       |
| <i>Chicago Inter-Ocean</i> , April 14               | <i>Bismarck (ND) Tribune</i> , April 15          |
| <i>Cincinnati Enquirer</i> , April 14               | <i>Pensacola Daily News</i> , April 15           |
| <i>Cleveland Plain Dealer</i> , April 14            | <i>Athens (GA) Semi-Weekly Banner</i> , April 16 |
| <i>Dallas Morning News</i> , April 14               | <i>Tampa Tribune</i> , April 16                  |
| <i>Denver Rocky Mountain News</i> , April 14        | <i>Eau Claire (WI) Weekly Leader</i> , April 20  |

*LETTER #2: Bridgeton (NJ) Evening News, April 19, 1895*

**Captain Hann Leads a Raid**

**The Spaniards Completely Routed**

**Another Letter from Our Former Citizen, Which Brings News**

**Directly from the Cuban Seat of War**

**Special Correspondence of the *News***

In Camp at Espiritu, April 8, 1895

Since my letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, we have been reinforced by the arrival of three more companies of infantry and a battery of artillery who have not as yet received their full armament, having only three guns. The infantry we have equipped from our own stores. So now we have five effective companies of infantry and a battery of artillery in camp here. Five more companies of infantry and a troop of cavalry are on their way to join us and are due here the 10<sup>th</sup>.

We have moved our camp from near Nuevitas to this place, being some distance from the coast on the road to Puerto Principe, where we will proceed as soon as we receive reinforcements. We are busy all day long, drilling and we are becoming very proficient in field movements and hope to give a good record of ourselves before many days pass.

Our spies have brought word of an intended attack on us by the Spanish before our reinforcements reach us if possible. But thanks to our secret service we shall be prepared for them.

We are within one day's march of Nuevitas and three days' march of Puerto Principe, the capital of this province. We send our scouting parties every day and have made several raids on small villages, securing small quantities of arms and a small amount of ammunition at each place.

On one of these raids, led by myself, we met a party of volunteer Spanish soldiers on their way to Nuevitas and captured them after a short fight in which ten of my men were wounded and one killed. The Spaniards lost three killed and were all wounded more or less. The fight was short and fierce, but ended in a complete rout of the Spaniards as they left their dead and wounded on the field and in their haste threw away their arms.

We buried their dead and our own and then returned to camp, where the wounded were attended to. Our spoils consisted of

twenty prisoners, together with about fifty rifles and a small quantity of ammunition. Since then, which was the 5<sup>th</sup>, I have not left camp but some of the other companies have been on successful raids.

We shall, according to orders just received, stay here until the men and arms we are expecting from the United States have arrived. Our orders are to cover their landing and then proceed to Puerto Principe. We have now established a way of communicating with the mainland but as yet it is quite irregular. We hope to have soon made enough headway to justify in asking recognition from the United States and other countries as belligerents. When we have done this our success will be assured. I shall have to close, as the courier is waiting for this.

Yours respectfully,

F. P. Hann, Captain Co. A, 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment

**LETTER #3: *Daily Florida Citizen* (Jacksonville), April 19, 1895**

**Americans under Cuba's Flag: An Independent Company of Sixty-three Texans Make a Landing [Special to the *Citizen*]**

*Gainesville, April 18. — The following letter, written in cypher by a captain of a company in the Sixth Regiment of Cuban Volunteers, was received by a friend in this city to-day. It is dated Camp Liberty, Cuba, April 12.*

At last our second expedition has landed but it seemed for a time as if it would not be able to land here. The vessel was pursued by a Spanish vessel and had to run out to sea to escape. But to-night she happened to run in under cover of darkness and landed about twenty miles from Nuevitos.

This is the largest American expedition that has landed here as yet. In it was a company of Americans, sixty-three in all, fully equipped. They are from different parts of Texas, but mostly from Fort Worth. They were enlisted by a Cuban agent, who is organizing other companies and they will be forwarded as fast as possible after their enlistment.

This is a fine company, and, mark my words, they will be heard from before many days have passed. They are all splendid marksmen,

and will make havoc among the ranks of the Spanish troops. We now have in camp a full regiment of infantry, an independent company of Americans, a troop of native cavalry, and a battery of artillery armed with Gatling guns. These men are all fully armed and equipped with the most improved weapons.

We number in all 1,000 and start on the 14<sup>th</sup> for Puerto Principe, where we will join other commands and then march to join General Maceo. The latest dispatches we have indicate that yellow fever is making great havoc among the newly arrived Spanish troops. As yet we have not been troubled and hope to escape it. We anticipate several skirmishes with the enemy during the next few days.—*The writer is from Pennsylvania and was formerly a member of the militia of that State.*

<i>Arkansas Gazette</i> (Little Rock), April 19	<i>Brownsville (TX) Daily Herald</i> , April 22
<i>Carroll (IA) Sentinel</i> , April 19	<i>Laramie (WY) Semi-Weekly Boomerang</i> , April 22
<i>Dallas Morning News</i> , April 19	<i>Atlantic (IA) Weekly Telegraph</i> , April 24
<i>Fort Worth Gazette</i> , April 19	<i>Silver Cliff (CO) Rustler</i> , April 24
<i>Galveston Daily News</i> , April 19	<i>Two Republics</i> (Mexico City), April 25
<i>Louisville Courier-Journal</i> , April 19	<i>Pagosa Springs (CO) News</i> , April 26
<i>New Orleans Picayune</i> , April 19	<i>Wheatland (WY) World</i> , April 26
<i>Salt Lake Herald</i> , April 19	<i>Bridgeton (NJ) Dollar Weekly News</i> , April 27
<i>San Francisco Chronicle</i> , April 19	<i>Washington (DC) Post</i> , April 28
<i>Washington (DC) Evening Star</i> , April 19	
<i>Cleveland Plain Dealer</i> , April 20	

**LETTER #4: *Daily Florida Citizen*, April 27, 1895**

**Insurgents Win a Battle**

**1,800 Cubans Defeat Superior Spanish Force—**

**American Companies Engaged—**

**A Letter from Captain Hann, Direct from the Cuban Camp near**

**Puerto Principe Tells of a Fierce and Prolonged Engagement**

**Fought April 19**

**[Special to the *Citizen*]**

*Gainesville, April 26. The subjoined letter was received here to-day from one of the camps of the Cuban insurgents. It was written to a friend in this city by Captain Hann, a Pennsylvanian in command of an independent company of American volunteers. Following is the letter:*

In Camp near Puerto Principe, Cuba, April 20 – After many days of battle, we are in sight of Puerto Principe. We left Camp Liberty on the morning of April 14, and proceeded all the day without noteworthy interference. The next morning we broke our camp at 5:30. About noon the advance guard was fired upon by Spanish guerrillas under command of Captain Ballabao, who mistook our advance guard for a small band of insurgents. Our main command came on at double quick, and when Captain Ballabao saw how strong our forces were he promptly surrendered. We captured thirty-five men, together with their arms and equipments, losing three men killed and seven wounded.

We again took up the march, camping again at 4 p.m. During the night, our spies brought in word that the Spaniards were out in force, about six miles to the front and intended to give us battle in the morning. Colonel Aretino, who was in command, ordered us to advance and surprise them, which we did, reaching them about 6 a.m., April 16. They were on the watch and ready for us.

We drove in their pickets and were soon upon them. We found them drawn up in line of battle and ready to receive us. By this time, it was almost daybreak. We soon found out that they outnumbered us two to one. My company, together with B, C, and D Companies, were sent at the Spaniards' center. Commands E, F, G and H were sent against their left, and Companies I and K and the Texas Rangers were sent to break through their right if possible.

While the battery and troop of cavalry were posted with us, my company had the honor of leading the charge. Our Gatling guns did havoc among their ranks. The enemy held their fire until we were within 100 yards of them, when they opened a deadly fusillade, doing much damage to our ranks and staggering us. We soon rallied, and in a moment we were among them. Our Winchesters soon did work and the Spaniards were soon flying from before us. They rallied and tried to dislodge us, but having the advantage, we held our own, driving them back in confusion. Again they charged, but were repulsed with heavy loss. On the right the rangers were as successful as ourselves, but on the left our forces were having a hand-to-hand conflict. We went to their relief and soon victory was ours. Out of 1,800 men we lost 235 killed and wounded. Our colonel was killed, together with two captains and eight lieutenants, one captain being among the rangers.

We came in sight of Puerto Principe on the 19<sup>th</sup>. We have been harassed much by the enemy constantly on the march. We expect to be reinforced by two regiments of infantry to-morrow, when we will attack Puerto Principe, which is defended by a large force of Spaniards. In our battle we secured a supply of ammunition and arms with a large stock of supplies. From the prisoners we have learned that the enemy we engaged consisted of the Second and Fifth battalions of Spain and an infantry regiment, regular army of Cuba. We are receiving help from the United States daily, and as every Cuban in the insurgent ranks has entered with the expectation to win, we are hopeful.

Captain F. P. Hann, Company A, Sixth Regiment Cuban Volunteers

<i>Auburn (NY) Bulletin</i> , April 27	<i>Syracuse Evening Herald</i> , April 27
<i>Brooklyn Daily Eagle</i> , April 27	<i>Warren (PA) Evening Democrat</i> , April 27
<i>Chicago Times-Herald</i> , April 27	<i>Denver Rocky Mountain News</i> , April 28
<i>Cumberland (MD) Evening Times</i> , April 27	<i>Fort Worth Gazette</i> , April 28
<i>Dallas Morning News</i> , April 27	<i>Leadville (CO) Herald-Democrat</i> , April 28
<i>Kansas City (MO) Star</i> , April 27	<i>Los Angeles Times</i> , April 28
<i>Louisville Courier-Journal</i> , April 27	<i>Salt Lake Tribune</i> , April 28
<i>New Orleans Picayune</i> , April 27	<i>San Francisco Call</i> , April 28
<i>New York World</i> , April 27	<i>San Francisco Chronicle</i> , April 28
<i>Ogden (UT) Standard</i> , April 27	<i>Bridgeton (NJ) Dollar Weekly News</i> , May 4
<i>Pittsburgh Press</i> , April 27	

#### LETTER #5: *Daily Florida Citizen*, May 6, 1895

##### **Capture of Puerto Principe—Major Hann of the Insurgent Army Writes Another Letter from the Field [Special to the *Citizen*]**

*Gainesville, May 6. The most definite news in reference to the Cuban rebellion is received by a certain gentleman of this city, who resides several miles in the country, and who is a bosom friend of the sender, Major F. P. Hann of the Sixth Regiment Cuban Volunteers.*

*A proposition was made to Hann while he was in this country to go to Cuba and join the insurgent army. He went at once, and entered the service as a Captain. In the battle before Puerto Principe several officers were killed and in the line of promotion he was made a Major. The subjoined letter, written in cipher, was received by his friend while the latter was in the city yesterday:*

Puerto Principe, Cuba, May 2.



At last we have taken a town, Puerto Principe. After a bloody battle we are now in full possession. Having been reinforced April 27 by two regiments of infantry, we proceeded to attack Puerto Principe on the same day, and, after a battle of two days, have completely routed the Spaniards. Our loss is 422 out of a force of 2,790, while the Spanish loss is 692 killed and wounded and 319 prisoners. We captured four pieces of artillery together with all of the Spaniard's supplies and a large quantity of arms and ammunition. Volunteers are flocking into our camps by hundreds and the natives are rising all over the island. As soon as Congress meets, we shall apply for recognition.

We have received dispatches announcing General Gomez's victory over the Spanish at Jaragueta and the formation of the Cuban republic at Palegu with Tomaz Estrato Palmo as president. General Gomez is commander-in-chief of the Cuban forces. We have just received orders to leave Puerto Principe and join General Gomez in the province of Camaguay. We shall start in the morning. The two commands when united will make a force of 5,000 infantry, 5,000 cavalry and a battery of artillery. Our forces have taken 5,000 prisoners in the last two weeks. As soon as we reach and unite with General Gomez he is to start an aggressive campaign against the Spaniards.

I have, as you see, been promoted to major since my last letter.

Yours in hope,

Major F. P. Hann

*Chicago Inter-Ocean*, May 7

*Bay City (MI) Times-Press*, May 8

*Davenport (IA) Leader*, May 8

*Quincy (IL) Morning Whig*, May 8

*Boise (ID) Statesman*, May 10

*Bridgeton (NJ) Evening News*, May 10

*Bridgeton (NJ) Dollar Weekly News*, May 18

**LETTER #6: *Daily Florida Citizen*, May 14, 1895**

**Salcedo Reported Dead—The Ill-fated Spanish General Defeated Again—Left 1,000 Men on the Field—  
Major Hann of the Cuban Army Writes Again from the Insurgent Camp Immediately After a Battle in Which Colonel Rodriques was Victor—[Special to the *Citizen*]**

*Gainesville, May 13—The following letter was received in this city to-day. It was written in Greek cipher and the sender, a Major in the Cuban Army, was successful in smuggling it through the Spanish post.*

In Camp, Province of Camaguay, Cuba, May 6. —Again we have routed the Spaniards. This morning, while on our way to join General Gomez, we were attacked by a force of 3,000 Spaniards, under command of General Salcedo, who was on his way to attack General Gomez and mistook our command for his. We numbered 1,700 and were under the command of Colonel Roderiquez.

We had just broken camp, when our advance guard was driven in by the Spaniards. Immediately, we formed in line of battle and waited the Spanish charge. We did not have long to wait. General Salcedo sent part of his force to attack our center, while with the rest he strove to turn our left flank. We held our fire until they were almost upon us, when we fired as one man.

Our fire was so deadly that the Spaniards fled in dismay, but again did General Salcedo form his men and again did they bravely charge us. This time they came at us with the determination to win or die. Again did we pour a leaden hail into them, but still they came on. They almost reached us, but the storm of bullets from our Winchesters was too much for them and they broke and fell in great disorder. We charged after them, and took many prisoners.

The Texas Rangers deserve special mention for the part they took in this engagement, as they were the first to break the Spanish ranks. Our loss is 253 killed and wounded, while the Spanish loss is more than 1,000 killed and wounded, together with prisoners. We have learned from a prisoner just brought in that General Salcedo was killed in the final charge, but we have not yet found his body.

We join Gomez in the morning at Guaimaro, which town he has taken and has made his headquarters for the present. The Spanish ranks are greatly decimated by yellow fever and there is

great dissatisfaction among them. We are joined daily by deserters from the Spanish army. The natives are rising everywhere and the wildest enthusiasm reigns for the cause of freedom.

Yours fraternally,

F. P. HANN, Major Sixth Regiment Cuban Volunteers.

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| <i>Boulder (CO) Daily Camera</i> , May 14  | <i>Syracuse Evening Herald</i> , May 14                    |
| <i>Chicago Tribune</i> , May 14            | <i>Washington (DC) Evening Star</i> , May 14               |
| <i>Dallas Morning News</i> , May 14        | <i>Wichita (KS) Eagle</i> , May 14                         |
| <i>Delphos (OH) Daily Herald</i> , May 14  | <i>Worcester (MA) Daily Spy</i> , May 14                   |
| <i>Denver Rocky Mountain News</i> , May 14 | <i>Bakersfield Daily Californian</i> , May 15              |
| <i>Los Angeles Herald</i> , May 14         | <i>Decatur (IL) Daily Review</i> , May 15                  |
| <i>Los Angeles Times</i> , May 14          | <i>Eau Claire (WI) Morning Telegram</i> , May 15           |
| <i>Louisville Courier-Journal</i> , May 14 | <i>Marion (IA) Register</i> , May 15                       |
| <i>Marshall (MI) Chronicle</i> , May 14    | <i>Muncie (IN) Morning News</i> , May 15                   |
| <i>New Orleans Picayune</i> , May 14       | <i>Omaha Daily Bee</i> , May 15                            |
| <i>New Orleans Times-Democrat</i> , May 14 | <i>Denver Svenska Korrespondenten</i><br>(Swedish), May 16 |
| <i>Portland Morning Oregonian</i> , May 14 | <i>Bridgeton (NJ) Evening News</i> , May 17                |
| <i>Salt Lake Tribune</i> , May 14          | <i>Dodge City (KS) Globe-Republican</i> , May 17           |
| <i>San Diego Union</i> , May 14            | <i>Red Cloud (NE) Chief</i> , May 17                       |
| <i>San Francisco Call</i> , May 14         |  |
| <i>San Francisco Chronicle</i> , May 14    |  |

**LETTER #7: *Daily Florida Citizen*, May 17, 1895**

**American Aid for Cuba—**

**Large Quantities of Arms Taken from the States—**

**600 Men Fighting in the Ranks—**

**Major Hann in Another Letter from Gomez' Camp Says that Powerful Interests in the United States are Backing the Revolutionists' Cause [Special to the *Citizen*]**

*Gainesville, May 16—The following letter, written in cipher, was received here to-day:*

In Camp near Guaymarillo, Cuba, May 12

Dear Friend:

We joined Gomez on May 8, and I will try to give you a description of his force. He has about 5,000 infantry and 200 cavalry in all,

which, together with our commands, will make a force of 8,000 infantry and 500 cavalry.

Of these, three regiments are armed with Winchester repeating rifles, and the rest with arms captured from the Spaniards and others. The cavalry are armed with sabers and carbines, which are used very effectively. All of the men are being armed with Winchesters as fast as they arrive from the States. We are receiving very substantial aid from the United States, both in regard to men and arms.

I personally know of at least 600 Americans in the Cuban service, all reckless fighters and splendid marksmen. We have received, as near as I can find out, about six thousand stands of arms from the United States and they are still coming every few days. We have agents working all through the United States enlisting men. I could give you information that would surprise you as to who is backing us in the United States, but I dare not at the present time.

I received a copy of an American paper on May 10, which the Spanish Government must have paid for very liberally, as it is a direct attack on the Cuban cause, and intending to mislead the American public and I take this opportunity of denying it in full.

In regard to the island becoming a black republic, it is false. I admit that many of the Cuban troops are black, but they are officered by whites and there are not more than one-half of our troops are black, and there is no danger of the blacks getting the upper hand of the whites in this conflict. In regard to the Cubans themselves being indifferent to the cause, it is not so, as many of the best Cubans on the island are among our ranks, and we are being joined daily by scores of Cubans who make splendid soldiers.

I do not have the least doubt of our being successful, as we are too heavily backed to fail, and it is only a question of time when our fight for Cuban independence will be successful and we shall have a white Cuban republic.

The sentiment here is about evenly divided as to annexation by the United States. The last few days have been quiet, and I am at present in command of a battalion of the Sixth, out on a foraging expedition. I hope to have big news for you in the course of a few days.

Yours fraternally,

F.P. HANN, Major Sixth Regiment, Cuban Volunteers.

*Gainesville Sun*, May 17

**LETTER #8: *Daily Florida Citizen*, May 26, 1895**

**A Hard Fought Battle**

**Spanish Defeated, With Heavy Losses on Both Sides—Gomez is After Puerto Principe**

**Major F. P. Hann of the Cuban Volunteers Writes of an Encounter That Took Place near Neuvas—Thousands of Laborers Will Join Him There**

**[Special to the *Citizen*]**

*Gainesville, May 25—Major F. P. Hann has written another letter to his friend who lives near this city. Owing to a change in the cipher, it required one day and a half on the part of the writer to make out the full working of the communication.*

*Major Hann had a friend with him, who is a Lieutenant, and who lived in Philadelphia for a number of years. He was a good scholar, and Major Hann made known to him the cipher, with the hope that the Lieutenant would use it in notifying his friends in case of an accident. The gentleman in question deserted his friend and made known the cipher to the Spanish authorities. Upon hearing of this, Major Hann adopted another cipher which is similar to the first. His letter is as follows:*

In Camp Near Neuvas, Cuba, May 18 - We have just defeated a force of Spaniards after a severe loss on both sides. Our regiment, the Sixth, was ordered here to cover the landing of another American expedition. The Spaniards, having heard of our presence here, sent a force of 800 soldiers from Neuvas against us. They arrived and proceeded to attack us this morning. After a battle lasting six hours, we have just succeeded in driving them before us. It seemed for a time that we would be defeated, as the Spaniards attacked us both in front and rear at the same time, and almost had us surrounded, but we formed in a hollow square, and having the advantage in arms, we finally managed to drive them off.

The Spanish attack was well planned and executed, and if they had had proper support, they would have defeated us, but our men were desperate and fought like veterans. This, together with the rapid fire from our repeating rifles, did the work. Our loss was 152 killed and wounded, out of a force of 600. The Spanish loss is as yet unknown, but it will be heavy.

We left Gomez in the District of Camaguey on the 13<sup>th</sup>, preparing for a raid through the Province of Puerto Principe, and we shall join him in as soon as our expedition lands. It is very important

that Puerto Principe shall join in the revolution, and Gomez hopes by this move to win it over to the cause.

As soon as the rainy season sets in, we shall be joined by thousands of laborers from the sugar plantations. I have received a severe wound in the shoulder, but am still on active duty.

The Spanish Government has set a price on my head, dead or alive, and I shall die before being taken. I am expecting to be sent out on a long raid in a few days. I am gathering information in response to your letter in regard to our full strength, white and colored, and other information that you request, as fast as possible, and I hope to have a complete account for you in a few days.

Yours fraternally,

F. P. Hann, Major Sixth Regiment, Cuban Volunteers.

*Gainesville Sun*, May 26

*Dallas Morning News*, May 26

*Dubuque (IA) Sunday Herald*, May 26

*Salt Lake Tribune*, May 26

*San Francisco Chronicle*, May 26

*Washington (DC) Times*, May 26

*Galveston Daily News*, May 27

*Omaha Daily Bee*, May 27

**LETTER #9: *Daily Florida Citizen*, June 17, 1895**

**Marti Died by Perfidy**

**Betrayed into Spanish Hands by a Cuban Guide  
Reports Confirmed by Letter**

**Major F. P. Hann of the Patriot Army Also Tells of the Landing of  
Men, Arms, Ammunition and Money at Aransas River, Cuba  
[Special to the *Citizen*]**

*Gainesville, June 16.* The subjoined letter from Major F. P. Hann of the Cuban Army has been received by a friend in this city.

Aransas River, Cuba, June 6, 1895

We have positive news that Marti is dead. He was betrayed into the Spanish hands by a trusted Cuban guide and shot down in cold blood before he could escape. I hope to have more definite news of his death and other matters as soon as I rejoin my own command, of which I will notify you as soon as possible.

The most important expedition that has landed on Cuban soil from the United States was landed to-day at this point. It consists of

100 men, 1,000 repeating rifles, 2,000,000 rounds of ammunition and \$250,000 in gold. Under the command of Col. Hernandez the vessel left Key West June 6, and sailed for Bahia Island, where the men and cargo were taken aboard. They were chased twice by Spanish cruisers, but managed to outsteam them, and arrived here this morning before day.

We are now making arrangements to join Gomez at Tunas, Province of Camaguay, where he has his headquarters at present. We have a march of about forty miles before us, but hope to join him on the 12<sup>th</sup>. The landing was protected by a battalion of Cuban troops from Gomez's command, and we hope to join him without serious fighting, as there are no Spanish troops in this immediate neighborhood.

I am just recovering from an attack of yellow fever, but shall risk joining my command again. I shall try and keep you informed of all important movements on our side in the future.

Yours fraternally, F.P. HANN, Major, Sixth Regular Cuban Volunteers

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| <i>Florida Times-Union</i> (Jacksonville), June 17 | <i>Fredericksburg (VA) Star</i> , June 17        |
| <i>Anaconda (MT) Standard</i> , June 17            | <i>Galveston Daily News</i> , June 17            |
| <i>Atlanta Constitution</i> , June 17              | <i>Geneva (NY) Times</i> , June 17               |
| <i>Baltimore American</i> , June 17                | <i>Jackson (MI) Citizen-Patriot</i> , June 17    |
| <i>Baltimore Morning Herald</i> , June 17          | <i>Kansas City (MO) Journal</i> , June 17        |
| <i>Birmingham (AL) Age-Herald</i> , June 17        | <i>Kansas City (MO) Star</i> , June 17           |
| <i>Boston Herald</i> , June 17                     | <i>Kansas City (MO) Times</i> , June 17          |
| <i>Bridgeton (NJ) Evening News</i> , June 17       | <i>Knoxville (TN) Journal</i> , June 17          |
| <i>Charleston (SC) News-Courier</i> , June 17      | <i>Lawrence (KS) World</i> , June 17             |
| <i>Chicago Inter-Ocean</i> , June 17               | <i>Lebanon (PA) Semi-Weekly News</i> , June 17   |
| <i>Chicago Times-Herald</i> , June 17              | <i>Lima (OH) Times-Democrat</i> , June 17        |
| <i>Cincinnati Enquirer</i> , June 17               | <i>Logansport (IN) Reporter</i> , June 17        |
| <i>Cleveland Plain Dealer</i> , June 17            | <i>Los Angeles Herald</i> , June 17              |
| <i>Columbia (SC) State</i> , June 17               | <i>Los Angeles Times</i> , June 17               |
| <i>Cumberland (MD) Evening Times</i> , June 17     | <i>Louisville Courier-Journal</i> , June 17      |
| <i>Dallas Morning News</i> , June 17               | <i>Macon (GA) Telegraph</i> , June 17            |
| <i>Decatur (IL) Republican</i> , June 17           | <i>Maysville (KY) Evening Bulletin</i> , June 17 |
| <i>Denver Rocky Mountain News</i> , June 17        | <i>Middletown (NY) Argus</i> , June 17           |
| <i>Duluth (MN) News-Tribune</i> , June 17          | <i>Meriden (CT) Daily Journal</i> , June 17      |
| <i>Frederick (MD) News</i> , June 17               | <i>Milwaukee Sentinel</i> , June 17              |
|  | <i>New Orleans Picayune</i> , June 17            |

- New Orleans Times-Democrat*, June 17  
*New York Herald*, June 17  
*New York Sun*, June 17  
*New York Times*, June 17  
*New York Tribune*, June 17  
*New York World*, June 17  
*Olympia (WA) Daily Olympian*, June 17  
*Omaha Daily Bee*, June 17  
*Omaha World Herald*, June 17  
*Paterson (NJ) Daily Press*, June 17  
*Philadelphia North American*, June 17  
*Philadelphia Public Ledger*, June 17  
*Pittsburgh Commercial Gazette*, June 17  
*Pittsburgh Freiheits-Freund*, June 17  
 (German)  
*Pittsburgh Volksblatt*, June 17 (German)  
*Plattsburgh (NY) Daily Press*, June 17  
*Portland Morning Oregonian*, June 17  
*Rochester (NY) Democrat-Chronicle*, June 17  
*Sacramento Record-Union*, June 17  
*St. Louis Republic*, June 17  
*St. Paul (MN) Daily Globe*, June 17  
*Salt Lake Herald*, June 17  
*Salt Lake Tribune*, June 17  
*Sandusky (OH) Register*, June 17  
*San Francisco Call*, June 17  
*San Francisco Chronicle*, June 17  
*Savannah Morning News*, June 17  
*Shenandoah (PA) Evening Herald*, June 17  
*Sioux City (IA) Journal*, June 17  
*Spokane (WA) Spokesman-Review*, June 17  
*Syracuse Courier*, June 17  
*Syracuse Daily Standard*, June 17  
*Syracuse Evening Herald*, June 17  
*Trenton (NJ) Times*, June 17  
*Utica (NY) Observer*, June 17  
*Washington (DC) Post*, June 17  
*Washington (DC) Times*, June 17  
*Wheeling (WV) Register*, June 17  
*Worcester (MA) Daily Spy*, June 17  
*Youngstown (OH) Vindicator*, June 17  
*Fort Worth Gazette*, June 18  
*Guthrie (OK) Daily Leader*, June 18  
*Laramie (WY) Daily Boomerang*, June 18  
*Manitoba Free Press* (Winnipeg, Canada),  
 June 18  
*Muncie (IN) Morning News*, June 18  
*New York Herald* (Paris, France ed.),  
 June 18  
*Richmond (KY) Climax*, June 19  
*Brownsville (TX) Daily Herald*, June 20  
 and June 26  
*Denver Svenska Korrespondenten*, June 20  
 (Swedish)  
*New York Weekly Observer-Chronicle*, June  
 20  
*Ticonderoga (NY) Sentinel*, June 20  
*Toledo (OH) Weekly Blade*, June 20  
*Troy (IL) Weekly Call*, June 20  
*Warren (MN) Sheaf*, June 20  
*Belleville (KS) Telescope*, June 21  
*Cedar Falls (IA) Semi-Weekly Gazette*, June  
 21  
*New Bethlehem (PA) Vindicator*, June 21  
*Aspen (CO) Weekly Times*, June 22  
*Cape Girardeau (MO) Democrat*, June 22  
*Stevens Point (WI) Daily Journal*, June 22  
*Nassau Guardian* (Bahamas), June 26  
*Crónica de la Guerra en Cuba* (Barcelona,  
 Spain), n.d.  
*El Liberal* (Minorca, Spain), June 28  
*La Estrella de Panamá* (Colombia), July 4



**LETTER #10: *Daily Florida Citizen*, June 19, 1895**

**Put Cubans to Torture—Spanish Soldiers Surprised in their Horrible Work**

**Rodriguez' Quick Vengeance—Insurgent Colonel Rodriguez, with 500 Men, Almost Annihilates a Battalion at Arequipa, Killing 473 Men at a Loss of 163 [Special to the *Citizen*]**

*Gainesville, June 18—F. R. Anderfer of this city, an old friend of Major Hann, has received another letter direct from the seat of the Cuban revolution. It is important, as it contains information which shows conclusively that the Cuban insurgents are not the only ones who are burning towns and butchering the inhabitants. The letter is as follows:*

Arequipa, Province of Camaguay, Cuba, via Tampa, June 14. — Our troops today surprised a battalion of Spanish soldiers and almost completely annihilated them. It seems that their major, hearing that a wounded Cuban officer was being nursed at this place, decided to capture him. The Spanish major, taking his command, reached the village before daybreak. After searching all the houses and not finding the wounded Cuban officer, he called some citizens before him and demanded, on pain of torture, to know his hiding place. All denied any knowledge of the Cuban. The Spanish officer thereupon put all the citizens to torture.

In the meanwhile, a Cuban had escaped and made all possible speed to us, reporting to Col. Rodriguez, who is in command. We were immediately ordered forward on double time. When we reached the village, the scene beggared description. The Spaniards had fired the houses and were torturing and killing everybody. Women did not escape. Our men were wild with rage. After firing one volley, they became so furious that they charged and were soon engaged in hand-to-hand encounter.

No quarter was given, and those Spaniards who were uninjured and had strength, fled in utter dismay. Dead and dying were lying in heaps about the place. This was the most desperate battle I have ever been engaged in. Our loss is 163 out of a force of 500, while the Spanish loss is 472 by actual count, including officers. We

captured their complete outfit and arms. This battle will delay us in reaching Gomez, but we hope to reach him to-morrow.

Yours fraternally,

F. P. Hann, Major Sixth Regiment Cuban Volunteers.

*Chicago Times-Herald*, June 19

*Chicago Tribune*, June 19

*Dallas Morning News*, June 19

*Denver Rocky Mountain News*, June 19

*Galveston Daily News*, June 19

*Logansport (IN) Reporter*, June 19

*Macon (GA) Telegraph*, June 19

*Maysville (KY) Evening Bulletin*, June 19

*Milwaukee Sentinel*, June 19

*Minneapolis Penny Press*, June 19

*Nashville American*, June 19

*New Orleans Picayune*, June 19

*New York World*, June 19

*Pittsburgh Commercial Gazette*, June 19

*Racine (WI) Daily Journal*, June 19

*Salt Lake Tribune*, June 19

*Salt Lake Herald*, June 19

*San Francisco Chronicle*, June 19

*San Jose (CA) Evening News*, June 19

*Sandusky (OH) Register*, June 19

*Sterling (IL) Evening Gazette*, June 19

*Washington (DC) Post*, June 19

*Wheeling (WV) Register*, June 19

*Denver Svenska Korrespondenten*  
(Swedish), June 20

*Grand Rapids (MI) Evening Press*, June 20

*Philadelphia North American*, June 20

*Rochester (IN) Weekly Republican*, June 20

*Hopkinsville Kentuckian*, June 21

*Belize Colonial Guardian* (British  
Honduras), June 29

**LETTER #11: *Daily Florida Citizen*, June 20, 1895****Gomez Has 15,000 Men: Major Hann Sends Out a Roster of Commands****More than 500 Americans There: The Lack is Not in Men, but in Arms****As Soon as the Army Concentrates, It Will Advance on the City of Puerto Principe****[Special to the *Citizen*]**

*Gainesville, June 19. R. F. Anderfer has received another letter from Major Hann, which was delivered in Tampa by a private individual, although it was written in the same Greek cipher. It reads:*

In Camp at Tunas, Province of Camaguey, Cuba, June 15, Via Tampa June 18. We reached Gomez' camp this morning at 10 o'clock after marching part of the night. Our entry was triumphant as his troops were all drawn up to receive us, and we received an ovation. Colonel Hernandez was with us, and had the pleasure of turning over the gold, \$250,000, to General Gomez, who will use it in buying supplies and paying the soldiers. The rifles and ammunition we turned over to the quartermaster, as well as the 500 rifles we captured in the battle yesterday.

I will now give you a description of General Gomez' army. It comprises in all 15,000 men, consisting of the following regiments.

Second Regiment, colored, 982 strong, under command of Colonel Guanaha, recruited at Cienfuegos;

Fifth Regiment, colored, 795, recruited near Cienfuegos, under command of Colonel Canarre;

Sixth Regiment, Cuban, Colonel Rodriguez, which has seen some of the hardest fighting of any regiment. When recruited it was 1,000 strong, but six weeks later it had only 600 men, having lost the others in battle, including our first colonel, Aretino. It has been newly recruited at is again 1000 strong.

Ninth Regiment, Cuban, Colonel Hernandez, 862 men.

Tenth Regiment, Cuban, Colonel Melpies, 930 strong;

Fifteenth Regiment, Cuban, Colonel Esperanza, 995;

Sixteenth Regiment, colored, Colonel Zapata, 1000 strong, newly recruited;

Nineteenth Regiment, Cuban, Colonel Matamoras, 926 men;

Twenty-eighth Regiment, colored, Colonel Pinos, 854;

Twenty-fifth Regiment, colored, Colonel Cortez, 979;

Twenty-seventh, colored, Colonel Martinez, 1000, newly recruited;

Thirty-second, Cuban, Colonel Cespedes, 938

Thirty-ninth, colored, Colonel Seronez, 739

Battalion of Natasa, Cuban, Major Canova, 400 men. This battalion is of the best families in Cuba.

Battalion of Damuneco, Cuban, Major Palmas, 460

Battalion of Soledo, Cuban Cavalry, Colonel Catalina 460

Battalion of Santa Cruz, Major Torre, 320

Battalion of Americans, from Georgia, Alabama and Florida, 324, under command of Major Jennings of Georgia, and Captains Stone, Lee, Most and Redman.

Independent Companies of Americans from OH, under command of Captain Ellis, 185 strong, and last, but not least, is the company of Texas sharpshooters, now 52 strong, from Fort Worth, under command of Captain Stilwell who was promoted from First Lieutenant. This company has been in six battles and lost 11 men, including its first captain, Little.

Of these commands, the Sixth, Ninth, Fifeenth, Thirty-Second, and Thirty-fourth Regiments, and the battalions of Natasa, Damuneco, Santa Cruz, and the Americans, and the independent companies of Americans, are armed with Winchester rifles, captured from the Spaniards, while the Second and Fifth regiments are armed with machetes and other arms, and the Seventeenth, Twentieth, Twenty-ninth, Twenty-seventh, and Thirty-ninth are armed with sabers and rifles. We hope to have all armed with rifles, but men are coming in faster than arms at present. Of these regiments, the Second, Fifth, Sixth, Ninth, Tenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-fifth, Thirty-fourth, and Thirty-ninth are in camp here, also the battalions and two companies of Americans.

The others are marching to join us, and as soon as all are in camp we shall march upon and try to take Puerto Principe, which is our objective point. We are expecting another expedition with 1000 rifles and 5,000,000 rounds of ammunition. We also hope to take one of the Spanish cruisers soon, as we have made plans to that end.

F. P. Hann, Major Sixth Regiment Cuban Volunteers.

<i>Chicago Times-Herald</i> , June 20	<i>Washington (DC) Times</i> , June 20
<i>Chicago Tribune</i> , June 20	<i>Wheeling (WV) Register</i> , June 20
<i>Cincinnati Enquirer</i> , June 20	<i>Youngstown (OH) Vindicator</i> , June 20
<i>Frederick (MD) News</i> , June 20*	<i>Milwaukee Sentinel</i> , June 21
<i>Kansas City (MO) Star</i> , June 20	<i>Muncie (IN) Morning News</i> , June 21
<i>Maysville (KY) Evening Bulletin</i> , June 20	<i>Columbia (SC) State</i> , June 22
<i>Middletown (NY) Argus</i> , June 20*	<i>Nassau Guardian (Bahamas)</i> , June 22*
<i>Middletown (OH) Signal</i> , June 20	<i>Fort Worth Gazette</i> , June 23
<i>New York World</i> , June 20	<i>Sioux Center (IA) Nieuwsblad (Dutch)</i> , June 26
<i>Pittsburgh Commercial Gazette</i> , June 20	<i>Sumter (SC) Watchman-Southron</i> , June 26
<i>Shenandoah (PA) Evening Herald</i> , June 20*	<i>Racine (WI) Weekly Journal</i> , July 4
<i>Sterling (IL) Evening Gazette</i> , June 20	*in very abbreviated form
<i>Tyrone (PA) Daily Herald</i> , June 20*	
<i>Warren (PA) Evening Democrat</i> , June 20	

#### LETTER #12: *Daily Florida Citizen*, June 23, 1895

##### How Cuba's Leader Died—Authentic Story of Martí's Assassination

##### A Villain's Life Paid Forfeit

Martí and an Escort was Moving to the Coast to Embark for the United States When He was Led into Ambush and Slain  
[Special to the *Citizen*]

*Gainesville, June 22.* R. F. Anderfer of this city has received another letter from Major Hann of the Sixth Regiment, Cuban Volunteers, which reads as follows:

Tunas, Province of Camaguey, Cuba, June 16, Via Tampa, June 20. Since I have rejoined Gomez's army I have been trying to get an authentic account of Martí's death. At last I have been successful and have secured this statement from the only man of Martí's escort who escaped with his life. It is as follows:

On May 19, Jose Marti, having accomplished the purpose for which he had been working in Cuba, viz. the uniting of the various parties of Cubans on the island, left Maceo's army, with an escort of 50 men and a guide, for Sevilla, where a vessel was held in readiness to carry him to the United States.

All went well for the first day, but on the second, the guide, Oliva Gavilon, led the party into an ambush of Spanish soldiers near Tacajos. The ambush consisted of a battalion of Spanish soldiers under Colonel Sandoval, who is now a marked man. He ordered his men to fire, and at their first fire, Marti fell, pierced by a score of bullets, also a large part of his escort. Instantly, one of the Cubans turned and fired, killing Gavilon, the traitor. Gavilon was to receive \$10,000 for his dastardly deed, but instead death was his portion. Only one man escaped to tell the tale of treachery. He is my informant, Manuel Jucarez. He immediately made his way back to Maceo's command and relayed his story.

Maceo immediately started for the scene, but reached it too late to save the body of Marti from the Spaniards. The Cubans were rendered furious by Marti's death, and have sworn to avenge his death fifty to one, and Colonel Sandoval and his command are marked for no quarter. This is a true account, as generally accepted throughout the Cuban ranks.

The Sixth has been ordered on an expedition to-morrow, which will prove to be an important one if successful. From latest advices received from all part of the island by General Gomez, 30,000 men are up in arms, and hundreds are joining daily. Yellow fever is making terrible havoc amongst the Spaniards and they are deserting daily.

Yours fraternally,

F. P. Hann, Major, Sixth Regiment, C.V.

*Gainesville Sun*, June 23

*Arkansas Gazette* (Little Rock), June 23

*Cleveland Plain Dealer*, June 23

*Galveston Daily News*, June 23

*Kansas City (MO) Journal*, June 23

*Macon (GA) Telegraph*, June 23

*Nashville American*, June 23

*Natchez (MS) Democrat*, June 23

*New Orleans Picayune*, June 23

*Omaha Daily Bee*, June 23

*Quincy (IL) Morning Whig*, June 23

*Salt Lake Tribune*, June 23

*San Francisco Chronicle*, June 23

*Washington (DC) Post*, June 23

*Washington (DC) Times*, June 23

*Wichita (KS) Eagle*, June 23

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| <i>Dallas Morning News</i> , June 24               | <i>Racine (WI) Daily Journal</i> , June 24       |
| <i>Cedar Rapids (IA) Evening Gazette</i> , June 24 | <i>Sterling (IL) Evening Gazette</i> , June 24   |
| 24   | <i>Ann Arbor (MI) Argus</i> , June 25            |
| <i>Fort Wayne (IN) Times-Post</i> , June 24        | <i>Edwardsville (IL) Intelligencer</i> , June 25 |
| <i>Marshall (MI) Chronicle</i> , June 24           | <i>Elkhart (IN) Weekly Review</i> , June 27      |
| <i>Milwaukee Sentinel</i> , June 24                | <i>Cedar Rapids (IA) Standard</i> , July 11      |
| <i>Philadelphia North American</i> , June 24       |  |

**LETTER #13: *New York World*, June 24, 1895**

**Spanish Troops Routed—A Spirited Engagement Graphically Described by One of the Participants**

**[Special to the *World*]**

*Gainesville, Fla., June 23. F. R. Anderfer has just received the following letter from Major Hanna of the Sixth Regiment Cuban, Volunteers.*

Manati, Province of Puerto Principe, June 17—We have just finished a very successful expedition against the Spanish. Col. Rodriguez received orders from General Gomez on the 14<sup>th</sup> to start for Manati where a battalion of Spanish soldiers were staying. So, at 1 a.m. on the 15<sup>th</sup>, we started on our mission.

Colonel Rodriguez detailed companies A and B, and placing them under my command, ordered me to make a detour and attack the enemy from the north to draw their attention, while he, with the main body of troops, attacked them from the rear. The attack was started at 4 a.m. I commenced my attack by driving in their pickets and surprising them completely, for they had not expected any insurgents within miles of them. Their commander immediately formed them to received us, but by this time, my two companies had reached the shelter of some buildings and were pouring a deadly fire into their ranks from our Winchesters. Just then our main force came up and attacked them in the rear, sending a disastrous fire among them, which was repeated again and again, until the Spaniards, finding themselves between two fires, broke and fled, after firing one volley, some of them throwing away their guns in their haste to make good their escape. Their commander was a brave man, and sought to stay them, striking down two of them with his sword, but it was in vain. So, finding himself deserted by

his men, he surrendered to Col. Rodriguez. Our men pursued the Spaniards and succeeded in taking 250 as prisoners. Our loss was 52 killed and wounded, and the Spanish loss is estimated at 139. We captured 50,000 rounds of ammunition and about 400 rifles.

Our distinguished prisoner reports himself as Col. Sanchez and his command as the ninth battalion of Spain. From one of the prisoners, I learn that they have lost 145 men from yellow fever alone. We are now busy burying the dead and caring for the wounded of both sides. I received a slight scalp wound. We start on our return tomorrow.

F.P. Hanna, Major, Sixth Regiment, C.V.

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| <i>Cedar Rapids (IA) Evening Gazette</i> , June 24 | <i>Leadville (CO) Herald-Democrat</i> , June 25 |
| <i>Charleston (SC) Evening Post</i> , June 24      | <i>Los Angeles Herald</i> , June 25             |
| <i>Chicago Times-Herald</i> , June 24              | <i>Los Angeles Times</i> , June 25              |
| <i>Kansas City (MO) Star</i> , June 24             | <i>Macon (GA) Telegraph</i> , June 25           |
| <i>Ogden (UT) Standard</i> , June 24               | <i>New Orleans Bee (L'Abeille)</i> June 25      |
| <i>Quincy (IL) Daily Journal</i> , June 24         | (French)  |
| <i>Salt Lake Deseret Evening News</i> , June 24    | <i>New Orleans Picayune</i> , June 25           |
| <i>San Antonio Daily Light</i> , June 24           | <i>New Orleans Times-Democrat</i> , June 25     |
| <i>Adrian (MI) Evening Telegram</i> , June 25      | <i>Portland Morning Oregonian</i> , June 25     |
| <i>Anaconda (MT) Standard</i> , June 25            | <i>Riverside (CA) Daily Press</i> , June 25     |
| <i>Boise (ID) Statesman</i> , June 25              | <i>Salt Lake Herald</i> , June 25               |
| <i>Dallas Morning News</i> , June 25               | <i>Spokane (WA) Spokesman-Review</i> , June 25  |
| <i>Denver Rocky Mountain News</i> , June 25        | <i>Wheeling (WV) Register</i> , June 25         |
| <i>Fort Wayne (IN) Gazette</i> , June 25           | <i>Alton (IL) Weekly Telegraph</i> , June 27    |
| <i>Galveston Daily News</i> , June 25              | <i>Athens (GA) Weekly Banner</i> , June 28      |
| <i>Indianapolis Taglicher Telegraph</i> , June 25  | <i>Brownsville (TX) Daily Herald</i> , June 28  |
| (German)   |   |



**Article from *Pennsylvania Grit* (Williamsport), July 7, 1895**

**Romance of Cuba's War**

**A Young Philadelphian Among the Insurgent Forces**

The romance of the war, in which a young Philadelphian figures as the hero, comes from Cuba. He left home on a bicycle. The latest advices from him announced that he is a major in Maximo Gomez's insurgent forces, and conveyed the intelligence that he was having a lot of excitement and fun in skirmishes and battles with the enemy.

The name of the youthful hero is Frank B. Harm, the son of John Harm, of West Philadelphia. He is twenty-one years old. His love for military life was manifested several years ago, when he expressed a desire as well as a determination to become a soldier. His parents were then living at Bridgeton, NJ, where he was a clerk in a grocery store. He was a pupil in the South Jersey Institute in that place for two years. While there he gained some knowledge of military tactics and became infatuated with the idea of becoming a soldier. He read romances and books of valorous deeds on battlefields and studied authorities on military affairs. About four years ago, the family moved to Philadelphia. Young Harm still held to his New Jersey convictions that he would become a soldier, but continued clerking in stores.

He finally determined to join the State Fencibles. His father and other members of the family tried to dissuade him, but he refused to listen to their advice. He became a member of the organization, and was then happy in his new uniform. He was in the Decoration Day parade a year ago. The Harm family attended the Epiphany Baptist Church. Young Harm was one of the candidates for the captaincy of the Boys' Guard in that church and he won the honor. He was a domesticated young man. He had few companions, and his evenings were usually spent at home in reading war stories that fired him with an ambition to win fame on the field of battle. He frequently expressed a wish that he could find an opportunity to distinguish himself.

Last November, he said he was going to make a trip through the South on his bicycle. Family persuasion was futile. His mind was set on an expedition. He had a small amount of money to provide a few necessaries. Bidding his parents, brothers and sisters good-by

he started for the sunny clime on his wheel. How far he traveled with it is not known. No word as to his whereabouts was received until April, when a letter postmarked Gainesville, Fla., arrived. It conveyed the information that he was about to leave for Cuba to join Gomez's army. The letter relieved the anxiety of his family for the time. Nothing more was heard of the young man until about a month ago, when he wrote from Port-au-Prince [Puerto Príncipe]. He said he enlisted in Gomez's army, became a captain, and had just been promoted to a majorship. The last letter said he had been sick of fever, but was improving and expected to soon regain his regiment.

*Washington (DC) Post*, July 21

*Anaconda (MT) Standard*, August 2 and October 17

*St. Louis Republic*, August 18

*Columbia (SC) State*, August 24

*Kansas City (MO) Journal*, December 2

#### **Article from the *Bridgeton Evening News*, July 22, 1895**

##### **Frank Hann's Confession**

##### **Trying to Deceive a Sweetheart**

##### **He Admits that Name of Anderfer was Assumed**

##### **That Cuban Correspondence and How He Went About It**

##### **Special to the *News***

Gainesville, Fla., July 20—The Anderfer-Hann episode which has afforded a topic for interesting conversation in this city for the last several weeks was terminated recently when "Anderfer" confessed that he was Hann and said that he had adopted the Hann letter fake as a means of deceiving a "sweetheart" he had left in Philadelphia. Hann is not what would be termed an ingrained villain but all the trouble he has experienced in the past few weeks is the direct result of a prank which he commenced in a small way but which drew him into a serious complication. Had it not been for Hann leaving the city with a disreputable woman he would have still been respected here. As it is, however, he would not receive a warm welcome should he return.

The manner in which he proceeded in connection with the Cuban letters was amusing. Every letter was written by himself in Greek cipher, taken to a pile, and buried underneath. In the night time

he would go for it, rewrite the letter in English, and give it out to J.O. LaFontisee, a newspaper correspondent, who gave out the letters to the press.

A laughable feature of this episode was the spectacle that the Southern Associated Press made of itself. A Mr. Reynolds, the Florida representative of the Southern Associated Press, offered every inducement to secure the letters. Anderfer retained them, however, for Mr. LaFontisee and finally in desperation Mr. Reynolds stole one of the letters out of the Jacksonville telegraph office when he was assisted by a messenger.

Gainesville people have enjoyed the fun and are anxiously awaiting for another sensation.

Hann's first appearance in Gainesville was when he was a member of a tramp camp near this city, when a tramp known to his associates as Frenchy and whose home was in Pennsylvania was killed. Hann was not criminally connected with the tragedy. While here he secured a position and went with the best people.