

Gardermoen 8th June 1879

Dear Brother,

*It's a year since I wrote a letter to you and many things can change in such a long time. I've read all the letters you've sent to our parents therefore I know that you're doing well.*

*Thank God, I'm healthy, but I'm definitely not happy with my new position as a soldier of the Cavalry at Gardermoen. But if I can stay healthy, I hope the time will pass, one day at a time. Now it's 4 weeks since I left home, I was on the journey for one week, and I've been here for 3 weeks. It's unusually strict here, so I just look forward to the end of my time here.*

*I've been thinking of going to America for a long time now and finally I've made up my mind to actually go this fall, as soon as I'm finished here, if you'll not advise me against it. Now I'm asking you, do you believe it will be suitable for me to come over there? I'm planning to go with my sweetheart and my brother Karl, if he will be able to save enough money. I've promised to help him a little bit with some money, but it can't be too much because I also have to pay for both myself and Sedsel. Could you please give me some advice and instructions about the travel? What shall we bring with us and how can we prepare? My plan was to apply for leave so I could go to America, but my application was refused because it was sent too late. Therefore I'll have to stay here until I've finished the school, but after that I'll go whether they allow me or not. I can tell you that the horse I'm using belongs to Torgeir Blegen, Faaberg, and it's not an easy horse to ride.*

*Our daily pay is 4.5 Shilling (or 15 øre as it is now), and that's not too much. We get up at 04:30 in the morning and finish at 09:00 in the evening. I've never followed such strict rules before. We'll finish here August 15<sup>th</sup> and then I am suppose to return home about August 20<sup>th</sup>, so I'll not be able to go to America before the end of September or the beginning of October.*

*I've just received a letter from them at home and they are all well. Even though I've got more to tell you, I'll have to finish because I don't have the time to write any more for this time. If God let us live and you'll not advise me against, I hope we'll meet again before the end of this summer. Then we can speak to each other again.*

*Best regards for you and your family from your brother*

*Yours Sincerely,  
Chr. Dahl*

*Please reply my letter as soon as possible.  
You may use our parents address.*

*Sedsel is asking me to send her best regards*