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William J. Kerr

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5-7-1903

## Letter from C. B. Hardin

C. B. Hardin

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Fort Logan Colo. May 7<sup>th</sup> 1903

The President.

Agricultural College of Utah  
Logan. Utah.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your favor of the 4<sup>th</sup> inst.  
I regret having to state that I am no  
longer available for detail, as I have  
just been detailed as Prof. of mil. Science  
and Tactics at the Oregon Agricultural College,  
Corvallis, Oregon. Your Catalogue made  
a very favorable impression upon me. I  
like Utah, and I have formed the  
opinion that Utah boys are the best  
disciplined boys in our country. I have  
seen many of them since the beginning  
of the Spanish American War, and I should  
like very much to see more of them. I was  
not a candidate for a College detail, but  
having been ordered for duty in  
the tropics, and my regiment having gone  
to the Philippines leaving me behind perfectly  
able to perform full duty in this country,  
but having no command. I suppose the  
War Dept. thought best to employ me as



College duty. At any rate the Adjutant  
General telegraphed me on April 29<sup>th</sup> asking  
if I desired the detail to Oregon. I replied  
same date saying I would accept, and  
my order was issued April 30<sup>th</sup>. As far as  
I know the College Auctioneers know  
nothing of me, but I presume that I  
have been duly recommended by the  
War Dept. when my record is good and  
when they have on file my favorable  
recommendations from the Auctioneers  
of Doane College, Cent. Neb. when I  
served as mil. Instructor from 1894 to 1898.  
I have been wondering whether you have  
been recommending me for College duty?

I have at this post Captain Albert S.  
Brooks 29<sup>th</sup> U.S. Infantry, who like myself  
must serve in the U.S. only. His regiment  
is in the Philippines, and the War Dept  
might consider him available for  
detail to College duty. He is a graduate  
of West Point, and is thoroughly competent.  
Quite a young man, recently married.  
I have his permission to recommend him  
to you, and he thinks he would like the  
detail, and would like to hear from  
you. From your questions I thought it



It is possible that you might desire to have  
the officer detailed, perform some other  
duties as teacher - outside his department.  
This was once quite common, but is  
by General Order #94 of 1901. Adjutant General's  
Office prohibited in Land grant schools,  
i.e. those brought by the provisions of the  
Act of Congress approved July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1862. Should  
you write to Capt Brooks, it would be well  
to tell him what you wish to have him do,  
the duties as instructor of Military Science  
are laid down in the order above referred  
to. An officer wants to know all about the  
question of suitable quarters, market re.

I am very sorry to have missed you, as I  
am quite certain that I could have  
given you satisfactory references to start me  
with and that I could have rendered  
satisfactory service. I have always been  
fortunate in this respect. I might even  
have pulled up a photograph flattering enough  
to please you. I am a total abstemious and do  
not gamble, and have been considered  
good company for boys. Have always  
managed to maintain good discipline  
without flogging. Yes I am sure we could  
have gotten on splendidly. but then



it seems to be too late.

Trusting that you may secure a good  
officer, and that he may always have  
as capable such men as composed the  
famous Utah Battery of 1898. I am

Very respectfully  
O. W. Hancock

Capt 1st Infantry.