

THE CITADEL

ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM

October 3, 1918.

Dear Mr Sheppard:

As I telephoned you, I furloughed the cadets last Sunday night until conditions in the Spanish influenza situation improve.

I acted explicitly upon the advice of our Surgeon, Dr Cathcart, and have every reason to believe that his advice was the wise and proper thing to do. We had over fifty cases of the disease on Sunday, and our hospital facilities were exhausted, nor could sufficient nurses be obtained in the city to take care of any more patients. We therefore advised the cadets who were well to go to their homes until it would be advisable to have them return for duty.

I am sorry to tell you that one of the cadets who was taken down with the disease, Cadet Cudworth, of Charleston, died last night in the Cadet Hospital. We have a few more boys who are quite sick, but none whom Dr Cathcart considers seriously so.

I have kept a few cadets who lived at a considerable distance from Charleston in the barracks, but not so large a number but that we could take care of them if they get the disease.

Dr Cathcart received orders from Washington to-day to go to Camp Wadsworth. I hope he will have a few days for preparation. In his absence, his assistant, Dr Martin, and Dr Rutledge will attend to the cadets. I shall have an official application from Dr Cathcart to send you in a day or two. I am extremely sorry we shall lose Dr Cathcart's services, even though it only be temporarily.

I had a talk with Governor Manning to-day about the arrangements we would like to have at the Citadel in regard to the discipline. He has a letter which I prepared which states the case as I see it, and he will go over it again when he gets back to Columbia, and send it on to you for your consideration.

In view of the fact that the opening of the Citadel has been deferred, on account of the epidemic of influenza, and that the organization ~~the~~ of the Students Army Training Corps has therefore been postponed, it seems to me that it would be advisable for you to postpone the meeting of the Board until some little time after the S.A.T.C. has been in operation, so that we shall have a better understanding of the financial obligations which the Government intends to assume, as this will affect the budget which the Board will prepare for the Legislature. If you think this is wise, I will ask Mr Smith to advise the members of the Board that you have postponed the meeting for the reason given to November 8th, by which time I think we will know better how we stand.

With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Superintendent.