

(COPV)

Aug. 21st, 1899.

HIS EXCELLENCY,  
The President of the United States,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

It gives me pleasure to recommend Capt. Chas. D. Clay, of the 17th U.S. Infantry, for an appointment as Lieutenant Colonel in one of the new regiments.

Capt. Clay was appointed in the Army in 1883 by President Arthur. He is a graduate of the Infantry and Cavalry School at Fort Lebanon. He served for 4 years as a Military Commandant at the State College of Kentucky, and had the most efficient corps of cadets in the history of the institution. He was the Adjutant of his regiment during the Santiago Campaign, and was recommended for a Brevet by his regimental and brigade commanders, for conspicuous courage and coolness and efficiency in transmitting orders under the fire of the enemy. He was the Adjutant General of the 3rd Brigade of the 2nd Division of the 8th Army Corps in the Philippine Islands, and was severely wounded on the 25th of March, in the action at Banlac. He was recommended at that time by General Hall for a Brevet, for successfully conducting a charge upon the enemy's entrenchment.

Capt. Clay is now in this country convalescing from his wound. He will be able to assist in the organization of any regiment to which he may be assigned, and it is believed that his wound would be so far healed that he will be enabled to return to the Philippines with any regiment to which he may be assigned.

I enclose herewith certified copy of letter of General Hall to General McArthur, recommending Capt. Clay for a Brevet at the time he received his wound.

The promotion of this officer would be particularly gratifying to Kentuckians, and especially to those living in the central part of the State, where Capt. Clay has been well and favorably known during the whole of his life. He is an accomplished and courageous officer, and one who is in love with his profession.

I am,

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

Encl.

H. C. McDowell.