

At Guantanamo Crane was caught in a surprise attack on a party of marines. His gallantry in staying to help care for the wounded under fire when he might have sought safety on a gunboat earned him mention in official dispatches.

While he was writing stories of the Battles of Santiago, San Juan, Guantanamo and the Cuban blockade, he was also working on short stories which are still among the best American efforts in that field. But his health could not withstand the climate, bad food and recurrent fevers. He left the island a very sick man.

Back in England, after Christmas, 1899, Cora and Stephen went to live in Brede Place, a crumbling baronial hall, which it was hoped would not be so accessible to his friends and where he might have quiet and peace in which to work. He was fearful that he could not live long and wanted to provide for his wife's future. But Cora's famous cooking and cordiality and Crane's informal hospitality continued to attract visitors, not always considerate of their hosts' pocketbook or privacy.

His health was failing rapidly, but he kept writing at a furious pace. Finally, in a vain attempt to stall off the ravages of consumption he hurried to Baden Weiler, Germany.

The Black Forest could work no magic for Stephen Crane. He died in his sleep on June 5, 1900. Cora had his body brought back to the State of his birth and he was buried in the Crane family plot in the Evergreen Cemetery, Hillside, New Jersey.

#### Bibliography:

Stephen Crane. Thomas Beer, Knopf, N.Y., 1923.

The Mauve Decade. Thomas Beer, Knopf, N.Y., 1926.

Notes on Life and Letters. Joseph Conrad, Dent, London, 1921.