

U.S.S. Ohio,

Shanghai, April 4th 1906.

My dear Grandfather:-

I have just received a letter from Father in which he tells me of your visit to Kerrville and of your leaving that note for \$3000 for me. Now Grandfather, I do not need any money at all and I am entirely out of debt and my prospects for a raise in my salary are very good, as my examinations for promotion to ensign will come off this November. I wish that you would keep that note and use it because you might need it yourself, and anyway, if I should get stranded, I will let you all know in plenty of time. I thank you very, very much for wanting to give it to me.

On Sunday Apr 8, we will leave here for Japan and I think that our itinerary will be about as follows: go to Nagasaki and take on pilot to take us through the Simonseki [Shimonoseki] Strait and through

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the Inland Sea to Kobe, where we will stay for a short length of time. The trip through the Inland Sea must be a very interesting one judging from all that I've heard of it. At Kobe we will be joined by about nineteen new midshipmen from the Academy. They will be divided between this ship and the Wisconsin and most of our old crowd will be sent to the smaller ships to make room. I am to remain on the Ohio as a watch and division officer. I have had a division for quite a while and just the other day went on regular watch. Two of my class, Canaga and Dowell, will remain on here also. I am glad now, that I am to remain on this ship because I have good responsible duty now and my chances for remaining on this ship until she returns to the States, are very good. Down in the Philippine Islands the admiral is putting midshipmen in command of the small gunboats and by next February I think I could get a job like that – but the one I have a[t] present is much better in my estimation.

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From Kobe we will go to Yokohama and will remain there for at least one month, and possibly longer because we have got a lot of engineering work on hand – retuning condensers and various other things in steam engineering. There are thirteen more midshipmen of the new class coming out here by way of the Suez Canal, thus making thirty-two new midshipmen. I don't know where they are all going because we can only take about eight or nine more on board here and the Wisconsin will only take about ten. They will have to sleep in hammocks and will have to keep their clothing in chests, etc. We had eighteen in our mess coming across and we had to eat our meals in three relays, the lucky people being the ones who got in on the first table. Kays of my class has been ordered to the Raleigh and my old roommate, Stewart, has been ordered to go to the Cincinnati as watch and division officer. These two cruisers are very good duty and they do a lot of cruising around here.

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From Yokohama we will go to Chefoo (I think) for our target practice with the turret guns. We didn't have the practice in Manila Bay because we didn't have the proper ammunition and had to send to the States for some. From there we start back to Manila, going down by the China coast and stopping in at several places along the way.

We will be in Tokio [sic] for the Mikado's Garden Party. Mrs. Admiral Train is there now and is fixing things up so that the American naval officers will be around about that time in full force.

Well Grandfather – there is nothing more so I will close with my best love to all and with hopes that all of our family are well.

Your loving grandson

[signed]

Chester W Nimitz

U.S.S. Ohio –

Postmaster San Francisco

Cal.