

U.S.S. Indiana

At anchor off Nahant, Mass.

July 12, 1903.

Dear Father:-

We left Brooklyn Navy Yard at 10 o'clock on July 10th and arrived here last night around 11:30. We found the Texas, Hartford, Dale, Chauncey, Barry, Bainbridge, and the Decatur already assembled here to take part in the Centennial Celebration of Nahant, which begins tomorrow. All the ships will be open to visitors and I expect them to be crowded all day. Detachments of Jackies from each ship will take part in a parade in the town. It's funny how all these little towns celebrate anniversaries, etc., here in New England. Nahant is an old town but it is not very large. It is about ten miles from Boston.

Today all classes had liberty to go ashore but I didn't go

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on account of being on a detail as Officer of the Deck. I hope to go tomorrow or the next day, and if I do get ashore, I will surely go to Boston. We will stay here a few days and then go to Newport, R.I. where we will arrive on July 17, and leave on July 20 for New London, Conn. Nothing of importance occurred on our passage from New York to Nahant. The weather was fine and we were out at sea only one night. I was glad to get away from New York on account of the heat. About the middle of the day, the thermometer ranged between 95 and 104 in the shade.

Our officers this year on the Indiana are: Capt. Emory; Executive Officer Hodgson; Navigator

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Kimmel; Watch Officers: Lieuts. Turpin, Fitzgerald, Marvel, Campbell, Bostwick, McIntyre, and Ensign Madison. Besides these are a few officers who act as instructors in navigation, ordnance, seamanship, steam engineering, etc. They are Warburton, Laws, Schell, and Surgeon Somebody (I don't know his name). The Capt. is a good one and he treats us fine.

July 13.

Didn't find time to write.

July 14

We have had all sorts of visitors on board and we have been showing them around the ship, etc. You remember what I told you of the visitors in New London last year? Well, it came near happening

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again today. Stewart, MacFall, Frankenberger and myself have been amusing ourselves by showing the pretty girls over the ship. We would wait at the gangway until a pretty girl (tell Mrs. Weston that the Boston girls were very pretty) came onboard and then the fun of showing them all around would begin. I never saw so many people on board at once. Just as this crowd was

leaving the ship, it began to rain and you can imagine how the crowd looked in the wet. Tomorrow we will leave for Bar Harbor, ME, where we

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will stay a while. Then to Newport to get our wash. You see we are in the Admiral's squadron and he has a very changeable mind. His name is Admiral Sands. We will spend the greater part of our time in these waters and will take part in the maneuvers next month. I did not get to visit Boston at all because we had only one day's liberty and I was on duty that day.

Well, I know of nothing else to say so I will knock off. My best love to Mama and the children and all the rest.

Your son,

[signed]

Chester W Nimitz

I know my writing is horrible now – but I'm doing this up on deck under very

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unfavorable circumstances.