

Oct. 3, 1901.

My Dear Grandfather,-

Your letter of 28th just received. Since the date of my entrance I have written three letters to you but they may have been lost in the mails. No there is never any bodily hurt done to any one in the hazing here. The kind of hazing here is more of a different kind, for instance, the other night several upperclassmen came to my room and made my roommate and

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2.

I go through several comical things. I had to make love to my broom and dance with it while my roommate struck up the band. We then had to go through the manual of arms with our brooms. I had to climb up my locker and make sail with a handkerchief. That is the style of hazing we get here. Also we are not allowed to swing our arms when we walk and must say "sir" when an upperclassman speaks to us. Another form of their hazing is brought out when we are in ranks with them. They swear at us for not doing better, etc.

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I rather like the hazing though

3.

because it makes a man out of a person and keeps him from getting too "fresh" as they say here.

The cadet battalion is divided into four companies and each company into twelve crews. This is for the meal formations, a crew occupying one table. In the ~~table~~ mess hall we are mixed in with the upper classes but I was lucky enough to be seated near a group of upperclassmen that were not bad hazers.

The fare is fine and there is plenty of it.

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Even at the tables the higher classes make the plebes do some funny things, for instance every day at dinner I have to report, in a strict military manner, what the dessert will be for the day. Each plebe has this little duty like that. They make us tell funny stories and if it happens to be a good one, they will swear at you and make you tell another one better. While all this is going on we must keep a straight face or else we will get a tongue lashing for laughing at our own classmates.

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My shoes are broken in now and I do not go to the hospital anymore.

We have not received our uniforms yet. So far the last three Saturdays we could not take advantage of the "liberty" from 12 till 6 o'clock that evening. At the first chance, I will speak to Mr. Werntz and get the papers from him. I will also send you my other examinations from 1893 up to the present time.

Carruthers took the Civil Service examinations

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6.

that were held during the month of August. He did not pass them, so you see that made my chances better up here.

My old roommate, Smith did not pass on first trial and so did not enter until later. As we were required to choose our roommates at once, Church and I agreed to room together. He is all right and we get along fine.

In making up an itemized statement of our travelling expenses we had to figure approximately what all the

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7/ expense was, if we did not know exactly.

I was given credit for \$73 for my expenses.

We commence our studies ~~ye~~ day before yesterday and all that I find hard at present, is the French. That will come all right though I think.

We are certainly worked hard in our studies and it is very little time we have to spare. One drill a day is all we have in that time.

In our mess hall there are about fifty waiters to take

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8) care of us and all of the expense comes out of our pay.

For recitation, the class is divided into sections of ten men each and each section has a separate instructor. Most of the instructors are Naval officers of high rank.

How is everyone at Fredericksburg? Is Aunt Bertha well? And all the rest.

My best love to you all.

Your affectionate grandson,

[signed]

Chester W. Nimitz

Nuddye and Ohnie came to see me all right and I was glad of it.