

In my next letter I will tell you how His Royal highness, the colored Prince of Siam, looked; and what he thought of the U.S.N.A.

Oct. 12, 1902.

Dear Father:-

Your letter of Oct. 8th came all right. No, we do not room in the same building. We room on the top floor of the main quarters and that means that we have to run up and down four flights of stairs about eight or nine times a day. But that is good exercise.

Tuesday morning we got up at five o'clock and by seven am we were ready to start for

[Page 2]

Washington. We arrived at Washington about 8:30 and then our troubles began. From the time of our arrival until about 1pm we were on the march. We marched into the large hotel and ate our lunch. We certainly made that spread look sick. After that we had about thirty minutes to ourselves. The time was too short to try to go out to Nuddye's school, so I tried to telephone out. I did not get to speak to her however.

Clara and Nuddye had arrived in Washington on Sunday, Oct 5, and had

[Page 3]

they stayed there a couple of days I would have seen them. When we were not marching, we were surrounded by old Yankee veterans who kept us busy answering all sorts of questions. After the parade everyone that had seen it, came around and told us that ours was the best drilled organization of the day. We returned to Annapolis hot, tired, disgusted, and few more other things.

Church happened to make the remark that he was hungry and I agreed with him. Just about that time, the midshipman-in-charge of the floor stepped in with a little box. He watched while I opened it. It was a box of stuffed dates from Miss Austin and the children. They were certainly good and they couldn't have come at a better time. I have written a letter of thanks for them.

[Page 4]

When Prince Henry came here, we had to go on dress parade for him in a heavy rain. Well the very same thing happened Saturday Oct 11, when the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation came to the Academy. His train was over fifty minutes late and all that time we waited out on the parade ground in a heavy rain. It was certainly pleasant. And what do you think! The Prince of Siam will be here to visit the

[Page 5]

Academy tomorrow. We will have to turn out to meet him. He is a polygamist, I believe; someone told me that he had over fifty wives. I wonder how many of his colored princesses he will bring along. I have been looking around for something to send home and the best thing that I can think of is a large picture of the Indiana and a large picture of the Battalion in Washington last Tuesday. I will send them on during that latter part of this

[Page 6]

month. In the studies I am doing the best I can. As I told you in September, I am spending every bit of my leisure time in the gymnasium, and as a result, my health is fine. How are Otto and Dora and Charlie getting along in school?

Is everyone well?

There is nothing new here so I will close. My best love to Mama and the children, Aunt Augusta, and all the rest.

Your son,

[signed]

Chester W Nimitz

P.S. an order published today reads as follows:-

1. The present 1st class will graduate in Feb'y 1903.
2. The " 2d " " " " " " 1904.

The next order on the subject is all ready printed and will read as follows:

1. The present 3d class (my class) will graduate in June 1904 instead of June 1905.

And an officer told us that we would graduate as ensigns. HURRAH!