

U. S. Navy Yard,

Mare Island, Cal.

Dear Papa –

Your letter came a few days ago and I was mighty glad to hear from you again as it had been some time since I had had a word from you or any of the family and way out here it is hard to keep in touch with everyone in the East and whats [sic] going on. Yesterday heard from Will and he seems to have hopes of getting away from Wellsville some time [sic] in the next couple of months but apparently nothing very definite.

For the last week I have been staying up here with Aunt Lena as they are papering in my room. I was trying to get the place fixed up a little as it was the barest, most unattractive you ever saw – from the outside of the building you would have thought it was fine but when you once get inside the rooms its [sic] a very different thing – the Civil Engineers certainly dont [sic] do much in the way of fixing up a comfortable place for a person to live in.

Everything has been going along here pretty much in a rut – now that the days have gotten so short there is practically nothing to do after leaving the office as it is too dark to ride or play tennis, you know Jim left his horse with me when he went out to the Islands and for about a month I rode nearly every day but the days are too short now.

Mare Island is sort of a funny place and some things about it are fine but others are pretty bad – it is so far from San Francisco and such poor facilities for getting there and back that it is almost out of the question for a person who has to keep office hours – it takes just about the time it does from Philadelphia to New York, not counting the time at each end, and waiting for lots of connections – San Francisco itself I don't think is what it is cracked up to be but going down about once in three weeks as I do its [sic] really not worth while [sic] to get to know anyone if you could – the yard itself is very nice, and with the right people it would be fine, a good many of the present in [?] could be improved on. As far as getting East is concerned it is a good deal of a question. I always have been a good deal of a restless spirit and more yet have been in a place that after six months I wasn't ready to move on, and this is no exception. I think the chances are however that there wont [sic] be any change for us till about a year from next spring when there will be a large class graduating and I suppose a general shuffle – personally I don't care to look forward to [more?] than two years of it as by that time everyone I know will have forgotten that such a person ever existed.



How is every thing [sic] in Annapolis now. [sic] I would like to see the old place again, it really is less than a year but would like to be heading that way. Now its [sic] too bad they dont [sic] build ships there – Good bye for the present, lots of love to Margaret.

Affectionately,

Sid.

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Lancaster**History**