

Naval Academy
Newport Rhode Island Jan 18/68

Dear Parents.

Your ever welcome
letter was received a day or two ago.
The enclosed money arrived all safe,
for which you have my very hearty
thanks. I feel that I have asked
for too much lately; but I have the
consolation of knowing that it was
necessary. The semi-annual exam-
ination commences tomorrow. The
whole class will only be examined
in two studies. a part of them have
to undergo one in Spanish. It
don't make much difference, however,
whether they are examined or not.
as I have often told you that the
examinations are the least of our
troubles. and besides they do not

count much. Yet I am afraid that some of the class who will be turned back; but I hope not. We are having clear cold weather; but I must say that fates seem to be against us, as it manages to rain or snow every Saturday, which is the only day of the week on which we have liberty and all our attempts to have a good skate, have thus far, been entirely useless. It has been such a long time since we have had a pleasant Saturday, that I have really forgotten when it was. My three months of taking fencing lessons expired during the first part of last week and as I did not wish to quit in the middle, I have engaged three months more, and am now engaged with broad-sword and single-stick exercises, I wish you would let me know whether you are willing that I should go on

for I have at present money enough to pay for what I have taken over last term. You need not send the money now, that is, if you are perfectly willing, as it will not be necessary for a month or so. I forgot when I wrote my last letter to tell you of the time being so nearly out, and so I had to engage the master on my own responsibility, or else lose my place. So I engaged him, and now I want your opinion on the matter.

I must close. Give my love to all
Your affⁿ son
G.