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Navy Department, Washington, D.  
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NAVY DEPARTMENT  
BUREAU OF NAVIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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October 1, 1918

My dear Admiral.

I have your letter of September 23rd. The hitch about Reardon's promotion came from a report that reached the Department about the treatment of some of the men on his ship. I haven't gone into the matter at all nor did I ask how the information came to the Bureau but I was told in the Registrar's office the other day that it had been decided to take no further action in the matter and that Reardon's commission would not be held up any longer. The incident is entirely closed and he loses no number. He could lose no numbers permanently without a court martial but as nothing like that is contemplated the young man is all right.

We too were distressed to hear of Graham's death. The Navy has lost 4 young officers, they all had the Spanish Influenza. Undoubtedly we will lose some more before the epidemic runs its course. It is a pretty bad situation. The Naval Academy has 850 cases among the Midshipmen but fortunately so far none have ended fatally. The conditions on some of the ships and certain training stations and camps is pretty bad.

I hope you do not feel that your letters ever bother me. As a matter of fact I am always glad to hear from you and do whatever I can to help get results for your recommendations. I know they are all wise and should be carried out when circumstances permit. Of course, in my rather subordinate position here I am not very often able to push them as I would like to but it is not because of lack of interest.

We are kept pretty busy but I hope not too busy to attend to matters of importance. I trust you will not hesitate to call on me at any time that you feel I can be of service to you.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Dear Admiral W.F. Fullam,

*Lewis Loring*