

U. S. S. MONTEREY.

San Diego California

Dec 20th 1897.

My dear friend:

Your letter
telling me of your safe
arrival home was duly
received, reaching me in
San Francisco in October
last. I was glad to hear
from you and that you
enjoyed every minute of
such pleasant recollection
of your visit. My Mother
and I often spoke of
you and the family
and both regretted we
could not have seen
you at our home in

Pittsfield. I returned to
my duty in Bath Maine
after remaining here in Boston
and remaining here until
August when I was
ordered to join this ship
then at Seattle in Puget
Sound which I did on
August 21st. Having
had about a week at
home before starting
west. We remained
in Puget Sound until
September then came
down to San Francisco,
had some work done at
the Navy Yard, and are
now here for the winter,
and to cruise along the

Mexican coast, for which
soon we leave in a few
days to be gone a month or
six weeks, returning here to this
port. The vessel is the
newest of the "Monitors" of
4000 tons displacement, 5000
horsepower carrying a battery
of two 12" & two 10" guns
beside the secondary
guns. She is a very fine
sea boat, and a very
comfortable boat to ride
and I am quite content to
put in my last cruise on her.
The book "A Working
Commission" from W. Knolly
sent me I read with
a great deal of enjoyment
as it speaks of a great
many places I have seen
and I have to thank you
for sending it to me.

My Brother whom you met
in Boston has been collected
to the Legislature and will
be in Boston again
after November 1st.

The contrast of the winter
between Maine and this point
is very great and I have
enjoyed the mild, bright
days very much. My
Permanent address remains
as before Pittsfield Mass,
but that here in U.S.S. Machinery
can many pay office.

With kindest regards to
Mrs. Clark & the Boys and
the hope I shall hear from
you or better yet see you
all again in my home
I am Very Sincerely yours

H. N. Stevenson
Chief Engineer U.S.N.