

U. S. S. MONTEREY.

Manila Bay Phillipine Is.

Nov. 15th 1898.

My dear friend:

Your very good letter of July 14th enclosing one from your son Alec. was received here on Sept. 28th. I also received his papers containing a notice of his death of your Mother John with an account of his services. I have the very kindest recollections of his personality, and the many kind attentions he showed us when I was in your city. I also received his papers with a notice of yourself and of your

appointment as one of the
Judges of the Supreme Court
and a Comptroller were
on attaining a position so
exalted, and one that
seems to be very satisfactory
and more to your tastes
than active politics.
The war with Spain has
been of course been the
exciting topic with us
all and I will give
you some account of
our part in it with
this ship. A year ago
we went down the coast
of Mexico for a cruise
coming back to San
Diego California the
latter part of January
and remained there until

March 29 when we arrived
at San Francisco. In May
we received orders to go to
Manila and after getting
cut at his many good
left on June 7th in company
with our consort the
Collier Porpoise, for while
this ship is able to cruise
in any sea and in any
weather where another ship
can go, never having been
intended for long cruising
carriers but a coal supply
for only 2000 miles at
mast, so it was necessary
to have a coal supply
with us as well as to have
the Collier tow us part
of the way. We have a large
deck load of coal stowed
around the base of the turret
but meeting bad weather
his first night out lost
a large part of it, and

had to put into San Diego
for another supply, from
then to Honolulu and to
Manila we met only
good weather until we
were within 24 hours of
Manila when we had a
heaving wind and sea
that did no damage but
made us very uncomfortable.
The trip over was a
very monotonous one
in which there was a
great deal of personal
discomfort owing to
the heat below & the
necessity of keeping the
ship closed up owing
to her peculiar construction
and low decks. For fresh
air below we had to
depend upon the blowers

and Electric Fans, We
 all found it quite trying
 but arrived in good health
 and without sickness of
 officers or crew. I myself
 lost 50 lbs in weight
 between San Francisco &
 Manila but was strong
 all right. We arrived on
 August 4th and were
 received with enthusiasm
 by the whole fleet. The weather
 at this time & for a week
 afterwards was very bad
 when interposed with the
 evading of the ships, the landing
 of the troops and it was not
 until the 13th that we were
 ready to move against
 the city where surrender
 had been demanded. At
 this time there were some

11000 troops in position
before the city ready to
act and move in. On
that day the fleet took a
position off the city, and
after some firing by the
fleet and troops, the city
was surrendered to our
forces, and we took
possession of the city well
understood that the active
defense of the city would lead
to a bombardment with
great loss of life and property.
Our part in the days operations
and for which our arrival
had been awaited was to
take position in front of the
strongest battery in the line
of defense consisting of 4
9.2 Krupp modern guns

This we did, the ships being
stripped for action, our orders
were not to fire unless fired
on, this the Spaniards did not
do so we did not get a shot
all day but we have the satisfaction
of knowing that our presence and
readiness to fire was a very
important factor in the giving
up of the City. Since that date
we have been at anchor off
Covite point - most of his time
when there is a severe anchorage
and also situated the Navy
Yard which we have in full
working order on repairs
for the ships of his fleet, and as
a depot of supplies. The shops
are fair & have been very
useful, as many as 500
men have been employed in the
shops & storehouses. We have
plenty of supplies of all kinds
including fresh beef, mutton &

My notes from Australia.
The city I have visited a number
of times but it is not particularly
interesting, save some of the older
parts of the old city within the
walls. All departments of the
Govt seem to be moving along
smoothly. In regard to keeping
the islands it is a ~~problem~~ I
did not desire to see undertaken
but I see no other way with
events as they have turned out
but for us to take the whole, and
I have no doubt we will
succeed in the end in giving a
Native Govt to the islands.

I send you some papers, among
them some that have started since
we have possession. We do not
look for any change until after
the treaty has been made & gone
into effect. With kindest
regards to Mrs. Clark and the
boys I am

Very sincerely yours
H. N. Stevenson
Our Navy pay office
San Francisco
California