

U.S.S. Monterey
 Manila Philippine Is.
 April 23rd 1899.

My dear friend:

Since my last letter to you some very important changes have come to me and thinking they will be of interest I will write about them. First comes a promotion in January to the relative rank of Commander with a considerable increase of pay.

Second on March 3rd the passage by Congress of an act that radically changes the status of Engineers in our Navy. It is so radical that

I send you a copy of
the act also the report
of the Committee of Congress,
and Asst Secy Roosevelt's
letter explaining the
Sec. of the Navy.

Asst Secy Roosevelt
was Command of the large
vickers in the Santiago
Campaign, and is now
Governor of New York.
When he took office as
Asst Secy of the Navy
one of his objects was
to eliminate the line
and Staff fight and
overcome the reputation
of promotion, he has
been successful as he
always has been in
everything he has under-
taken. His report

sets forth in clearer
language than I can
be whose care and
it will perhaps interest
you to read his report.
Under Sec 1 I will be
committed a Commander
in the line and under
Sec 5 will be exempt
from further sea service.
Today orders come for
me detaching me
from the ship and
ordering me to duty
at the "Union Iron
Works San Francisco"
as inspector of vessels
residing there, I expect
to arrive there early
in June, and am
very much pleased
with the duty and

Change from this list
here. Sec. 13 of the
Act regulates pay which
amounts to an increase
for all officers, taking
into account sea pay,
shore duty pay, and the
allowances, with the
seniority percentages.

I hope I may see you
in San Francisco when
I hope to stay for a year
or so at least and
shall always be glad
to hear from you.
With kindest regards to
Mrs. Clark and your
believe me

Very truly yours
H. N. Stevenson
Care Union Iron Works
San Francisco
Cal.