

Henry West  
Bath Maine

April 22<sup>nd</sup> 1857.

My dear friend:

Your note of the  
15<sup>th</sup> from San Francisco brings  
back a host of pleasant  
memories of my stay in  
your delightful island,  
and I am pleased to find  
you are now in America  
and that I shall have a chance  
to see you again and  
renew an acquaintance of  
or long ago. I am on duty  
here superintending the construction  
of some Cruisers and Torpedo Boats  
for the Navy building under  
contract by the Bath Iron Works,  
The town is a small one of only

4000 people and its only  
industry is shipbuilding & there  
is little but that to bring  
one here, though in the summer  
months of June July and August  
it is the center of distribution  
for a large number of people  
who come here to receive the  
results of which there are  
many on the coast near here.

I have ~~planned~~ for some time  
wished to go to Boston  
and it will suit my plans  
to be there for a few days during  
your stay in that city, I will  
not be able to get away to  
get to New York at present  
but will hope to meet you in  
Boston and will ask you  
to drop me a line giving  
me your plans of arrival  
& departure here so I can  
arrange to see as much  
of you as possible, I

ask this because it is probable  
that during the next two weeks  
one of our vessels will  
have her trial for acceptance  
by the Government and it will  
be impossible for me to leave  
during that time or until the  
report of the trial is made  
up which generally takes  
some days to prepare, so  
if you will let me know  
your plans within a few days  
I will I hope be able to  
make mine to suit - We  
can have as long a time  
together as possible.

Though I have been such  
a poor correspondent  
I have often had my  
stay in Germany brought  
to mind, and especially  
was it called up during  
my last visit home during

The Christmas holidays by  
various things and I would  
then if I should again  
hear from or see you, and  
I will journey to meeting  
soon with great pleasure.  
Let me suggest that when you  
come from New York to Boston  
you travel by the Fall River  
line of Boats which will give  
you a chance to see the river &  
a part of the country as they leave  
about 5 P.M. each day. Should  
you do so secure your tickets & rooms  
some days before hand as they are  
apt to be crowded at this season of the year.  
Wishing you to America at last  
and wishing yourself with pleasure to  
meeting you soon more & am

Very sincerely yours  
H. N. Stevenson

son G. Inglis Clark  
Care D. G. Thompson  
Executive Building  
New York