

Union Iron Works.

San Francisco Cal.

February 20th 1900.

My dear friend:

Your very kind
letter telling me of your
wellfare, and of the death
of our mutual friend Mr.
J. B. Walker, as well as
his various papers, was duly
received in December last.
I had intended to write by
January mail but on
the day set apart for it
I was suddenly called to
go to Portland Oregon in
connection with a board

of changes in cost on
Contracts with a torpedo
boat destroyer building
at that place and I
did not get back in time
to catch the last steamer.

I was very sorry to hear
about the death of Mr.
Walker whom I remember
very well. I was glad to
get his paper with his
picture and an account
of his life and services.
It is pleasant to remember
our friends as having been
good men and leaving a
record or usefulness behind
them. You will miss him
very much I am sure.

I have followed the war in
Larkin's office with a great
deal of interest and have
on the walls of my room the
best maps I can get of the
country was to be over &
follow the campaign.

The largest and best I have is
published by the National
Geographic Society ^{Washington D.C.} to which I
belong, compiled from the
best sources and Government
surveys. I am glad to see
decisive changes have taken
place in the last few
days and I have not a
doubt that the campaign
plan now developing
will prove successful in

the end for the English, for
which I earnestly hope to see
for whether the war was
justly started or not, of which
there is a wide difference of
opinion, there is no question
in my mind that the triumph
of the English will be best
for the world at large,
and the Buss themselves.
Had the attack been ^{possible} by the
Navy at the beginning as
was ours during the Spanish
war it would have been
a different story for an
efficient Navy is at
all times better prepared
for a quick strike than
is an Army, for here

daily routine, life and
 practice is more nearly like
 that of actual war, than is
 that of an Army during
 peace times, this was ~~most~~
 so with us in our late war
 and it was very fortunate that
 the Army did not meet the
 stubborn resistance like
 the Boers are able to
 make on their own
 ground after full preparation.
 I am pleased to see the
 Colonial troops so well
 spoken of, and I have no
 doubt the "rough rider"
 experience of many of
 these bits men to be of

aspect of value. Speaking
of his own riders recalls
Governor Russell to mind
and it is interesting to
watch his progress as
Governor of my native
State of New York he has
had many troublesome things
to handle but so far has
held his own with credit
and has just triumphantly
downed one of the most
notorious "barons" left
as a relic of the last
administration. The Governor
of Massachusetts is now a
Pewee County man whose
home is but a few miles
from Pittsford in which
town he also has many

interests. He is an intimate
friend of my Brother John
whom you met in Boston.
The late Governor, Wallcut,
whom you met has been
offered a place on Government
Commission for the Philippines
by President McKinley but
declined for private reasons.
This Commission is to establish
Civil Government in the Islands.
The insurrection there seems
to be about over except
some desultory trouble in
a few places.

My work here as inspector
I find very agreeable and
interesting, there being
7 vessels building for the
Navy and 2 battle ships.

a monitor, 3 Torpedo boats
of the largest class, and recently
another Cruiser has been added.
One of the battleships will be
finished this summer and
it is expected President McKinley
will be present at the launching of
the other the "Ohio" this summer.

In one of your letters you ask me
about San Francisco weather in
winter (you say - Feb'y.) There is some
rain, but a great many fine days
particularly in Feb'y, which
month is usually the pleasant of
the year. I send in separate
envelope a photograph of myself, as
I have not one of the cabinet size.
It is just the way to have a lot,
don't know if ^{of postage stamps size} you on one card all
different. The one of you was taken
a few months ago, I will remember
to send you a better one when
I have one taken. With kind
remembrance to Mrs. Clark and her
boys. I am very truly yours
H. N. Stevenson