



E. D. Stevens,
Oct 1906

Taken on Sacramento river Steamboat Apache
enroute to San Francisco on return from
trip to Colorado. on furlough



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Ed Stevens Age 21 on May 25, 06.
Enlisted as Apprentice Seaman aboard
the U.S.F.S. Chicago on February 23, 1905
at San Diego California.

On Febr. 27, 06. the "Chicago" sailed
for Magdalena Bay Mexico in company with
the other ships of the Pacific Squadron.
The fleet consisted of the flagship "Chicago"
a protected cruiser, the "Boston" protected
cruiser, "Marblehead" unprotected cruiser,
Princeton composite gunboat, "Perry," "Pueblo"
two torpedo boat destroyers and the auxiliary
merry collier "Saturnus".

Arrived after a pleasant trip of two days
at Magdalena Bay on the first of March.

Six weeks were consumed in target practice
and boat evolutions. Sailed in fleet formation
for San Diego, Cal. on April 8, 1906 and
arrived at latter port on April 10, 1906.

One week's pleasant visit in this city
when we left for Long Beach to exhibit
a battalion drill of sailors at the "Fiesta of
Roses".

On April 18, 1906 while thirty miles at sea
from San Diego; a wireless message was received
giving us the news of the destruction by earthquake
and fire of the city of San Francisco.

Prefix used with vessel names and their meanings.

U. S. S.	United States ship
U. S. T. S. training ship
U. S. F. S. flag ..
U. S. R. S. receiving ..
U. S. H. S. hospital ..
U. S. T. B. torpedo boat.
U. S. T. B. D. " .. destroyer
U. S. Sub. Submarine.

Abbreviations of rates.

M. A. A.	Master at Arms
El.	Electrician
Bt.	Boatswain
bx	Coxswain
b.	Carpenter
O. S.	Ordinary Seaman
S.	Seaman
A. S.	Apprentice Seaman
Ld.	Landman.
Y.	Yeoman
Es.	Domestic Steward
b. P.	Boat Packer
M. M.	Machinist Mate
F.	Fireman.

Wireless Message

Received from San Diego, California, April 18, 1906 for
Admiral Goodrich, Flagship Chicago, enroute for
San Francisco, California.

"Your wireless message received. First earthquake
shock San Francisco about five fifteen A.M.,
report very great destruction San Francisco and
Bay Cities. Hundreds buildings business section aged.
Streets blockaded, water mains generally over city
broken and Fire Department rendered helpless.

Report second and third shocks, third shock
being most severe. Fire (immediately) followed immediat-
ly over city generally. Attempted to check fires by
blowing up buildings with dynamite. Palace Hotel
reported down entirely and three or four hundred
dead in ruins. Hobart building has fallen on Post
Office. Examiner building badly wrecked. Ball build-
ing a complete wreck. Reported that Military authorities
have been requested to assume charge city.

Requests made for transports to take dead bodies
to sea for burial. All direct wire connections down to
San Francisco, messages being ^{sent.} ~~carried~~ by steamer across bay
to Oakland. Impossible to estimate loss of life. Frightful

force of earthquake felt along Market Street."

(Signed) Schou.

Mayor.

Received at about 9.30 a.m. on board The Chicago.
U. S. F. S. Chicago about thirty miles from San Diego when
message was received.

C.S.S.

Copy of wireless message

April 18, 1906

San Francisco's earth quake.