

69 Dearborn Street

Chicago

Dec. 25, 1903

E. B. Stevens

Southport No. C.

Dear Bro.

I write to you on the assurance of your wife that you are cured and once more in all probability you are safe home again after your Washington hospital experiences.

I enclose you the "notes" finishing up our maiden battle experiences. I have other "items" noted down which will be given if you care for them later on. In company with Russell last Sunday we visited

Graceland and placed a pair of holly wreaths on the one year old grave of our brother S.H. I miss him very much. The year has gone quickly by and the family of the Stevens are being gathered in "one

by one" Through the marriage relations of our Aunt Holton who now lies buried beside the Major at Quincy, we as boys have been in a great measure in life not in many but in opportunities the

pensioners of her beauty at an early date.

Business for the year has been with us tolerably fair, and we are now saving up for the expense of a trip by rail and the river to the St. Louis Fair next year.

Tell your wife I am glad for the address of Georges widow, whether of use or not. Desire to obtain a 14 cent and Larminie encased postage stamp. Have the 10 which we purchased in Peterboro,

Canada. \$900 and would pay an equal sum for the 14

The day is a typical northern, snowy blustering Christmas; thermometer at 18 degrees above and snow plows are running.

I learn by O.S. Lyford that Maria and husband have returned to El Paso, and that Rush is no better, also William Lyford is in Fort Worth Texas stopping with his son.