THE TERROR OF NAVAL WARFARE.

American Inventors Consolidating to Monopolize the World's Torpedo Supply.

It was announced yesterday by a telegram from Newport, that a consolidation of all the interests of torpedo patentees working upon the common basis of an electrical system had been effected, and that hereafter they will be combined in one corporation, to be known as the Lay Torpedo Company. Mr. G. H. Reynolds, one of the principal patentees concerned, said yesterday: "I look upon Mr. Lay as the original inventor of the movable torpedo controlled by electricity. In the course of the many years which he has devoted to perfecting the implement of war, he had drawn around him many skilful mechanics, and some of them have made valuable improvements upon the original Lay torpedo. Among those who have done so are Messrs. George E. Haight of Hartford, Marcus Hardy of Newport, M. Hubbe of New York, E. W. Kellogg of Hartford, and myself. The various improvements have been directed to reducing the size of the torpedo, increasing its speed, and controlling the firing of it. In view of the many improvements and various interests concerned, Mr. H. D. Winsor, manager of John L. Lay, undertook their consolidation, so that a movable torpedo may be produced which shall combine all these inventions. The combination has been effected, and the boat which will now be built will be very much faster than any built before—not less than fourteen knots an hour; will be smaller and lighter; can be run under or on top of the water as may be desired; can be steered in any direction, and started and stopped at will; can be exploded automatically or at will, as the person controlling it may choose; will carry an exploding force of 100 pounds of dynamite, and will cost only about $15,000. A view of its new and terrible capabilities, there cannot be any question that the movable torpedo is to play a most important part in all future naval engagements.

In regard to explosives, by the way, an important invention has been perfected, and the material is now being manufactured on an extensive scale. This new material is in two parts, each of which is perfectly harmless when separate from the other, one a liquid and the other a solid, and only when those ingredients are brought together does it become an explosive. It is a great invention for torpedo makers, for there can be no possible danger in transporting and handling the separate ingredients, and they can be mixed instantly. The mixture is exploded as dynamite is, and is possessed of a force equal to the very highest grade of dynamite. The liquid ingredient is an oil, which will not only not explode, but will not even burn well, at least not as well as kerosene. The solid is a material that looks like dried peat. What they are I do not know, but I do know thoroughly their absolute safety when apart and their explosive power when mixed.

The movable torpedo is now a success. The original torpedoes had a cable with five wires in it, each one performing a separate function. Now one wire performs all five, stopping, starting, steering, and firing. The combination has been in not only all the American, but all the foreign patents as well—some forty in number altogether—belonging to the gentlemen already mentioned, and if the Europeans want this system of torpedoes they will have to come to America to get them. There are no electrical torpedoes in the world but the American. We will probably establish works for torpedo manufacture in New York, as this is, for many reasons, the best place that could be selected, but that has not yet been discussed. We have no orders at present for torpedoes, but as soon as we are ready to supply them can have all we want, not only from our own, but from all the European Governments."

IN THE NEWS OF THE RICHMOND.

At Panama in October, Instead of Missing Since July.

Much anxiety was occasioned yesterday by the publication of a despatch, dated in December, from Rear Admiral Clitz, commanding the Asiatic station, saying: "The movements of the Richmond are unknown, nothing having been heard her since she left Yokohama last July." Many inquiries were made at the navy yard yesterday by friends of the officers and crew. Rear Admiral G. H. Cooper said: "There is some misapprehension about this. The Richmond arrived at Panama early in October. I sent a draft of men under Capt. Skerrett by the Powhatan in August to relieve Capt. Benham and his crew, who were nearly all Eastern men. They crossed the isthmus and arrived here safely, with reports of the safe arrival of Capt. Skerrett and the relieving crew. The Richmond sailed again for Yokohama, and has been out over time, but I have no apprehensions about her. She probably had a hard time getting out of the bay of Panama to start with, and then she had to buck against head winds. Besides, she was to touch at some port, probably one of the Sandwich Islands, and this would take her considerably out of a directo urse. She would be under sail most of the time, and seventy days to Yokohama under sail would not be an extraordinarily slow passage."

The Richmond is a second-rate screw, 2,000 tons, and fifteen guns. She is regarded as a fairly safe, slow, and sure vessel.

Champions at Hand Ball.

Hicks' new racket court was opened at Hoboken yesterday. The event of the day was a match at hand ball between the champion players of New York and Brooklyn, the quartet including Alderman Phil Casey of Brooklyn, with his young protege, Will Courtney, together with the veteran Barney McQuade of New York and Grady, these being the four strongest handball players of the metropolis, and Casey, the champion of the United States. The court was crowded with spectators. Before this match Messrs. Casey and Travers played a match, best two out of three, against Messrs. Daniels and Grady, the former winning the first game by 21 to 7, and the latter the second by 21 to 17. Then followed the champion's match, which resulted as follows:

Casey and Grady	21	21	21	8	71
Courtney and McQuade	12	15	19	21	67

A match at rackets was played in the afternoon, in which ex-Mayor Russell of Hoboken and some other city officials took part.

A Fugitive Deer Making Sport.

MILLVILLE, N. J., Jan. 18.—On Tuesday last, at about noon, while everybody in town was going to dinner, a deer came dashing down through the main street, and right behind it followed a dozen dogs, barking the loudest they knew how. Every dog on the line of the chase joined in, so that when the edge of the town was reached there were nearly fifty dogs after the deer. One solitary horseman followed the procession before it left town, and he was soon followed by a score of others, and inside of half an hour there were only women and factory hands left in the town. The deer, however, got into the woods and escaped. Hunting parties were then organized, and daily expeditions were made into the forest. If the deer had not been run down on Saturday, it is doubtful whether any of the male population would have attended church on Sunday. The animal was cornered in the edge of a creek about two miles from here. A noted, which is an enthusiastic merchant sent to Philadelphia for on Thursday, brought the deer to bay, and the merchant's son fired the fatal shot. It is not known where the deer came from, but some believe that it escaped from the Zoological Gardens in Philadelphia.

A Bishop's Semi-Centennial.

READING, Pa., Jan 17.—Christ Cathedral was filled to-night on the occasion of the commemorative service in honor of the fiftieth anniversary of the entry into the ministry of the Right Rev. Bishop M. A. De Wolfe Howe. Bishop Howe now has charge of the Central Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania, and some 225 clergymen have arrived to take part in the ceremonies. A missionary meeting was held to-night. Bishop Clarke of Rhode Island will officiate to-morrow, when a pastoral staff valued at about $700 will be presented to the Bishop on behalf of the clergy. A banquet will follow at the hotel. Bishop Howe is now in the 74th year of his age, and is hale, vigorous, and active. He is a native of Bristol, R. I., was rector of St. James, Roxbury, Mass., thirteen years, and rector of St. Luke's, Philadelphia, for nearly twenty-six years.

State Agricultural Society.

ALBANY, Jan. 18.—The State Agricultural Society this afternoon elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, John D. Wing of New York; Vice-Presidents, Richard M. Hoe of New York, Isaac H. Cocks of Old Westbury, L. I., Erastus Corning of Albany, George F. Mills of Florida, James Geddes of Syracuse, Joseph Julian of Rainbridge, D. D. S. Brown of Rochester, and Marcus H. Phillips of Hulberton; Corresponding Secretary, T. L. Harrison of Morley; Recording Secretary, W. H. Hocart of Aurora; Treasurer, Adin Thayer of Hoosic Falls.

The Executive Committee's report, after reviewing the agricultural interest for the past year, says that "this has been the best season for farmers for many years, and that we have had for several years." The Treasurer's report shows the total receipts to have been $25,062, and the disbursements $22,120.

Pauperism in the State.

ALBANY, Jan. 18.—The report of the State Board of Charities shows that there were 15,697 inmates in county poorhouses during the year 1881. The number temporarily relieved was 50,418; those supported 65,115. Last year the number in poorhouses was 17,095; relieved outside, 61,270; total relieved and supported, [illegible]. Statistics of the various city almshouses for the year show that 41,825 persons were supported indoors, 20,[illegible] were temporarily relieved; total supported and relieved, 66,555. For 1880 the total was 55,279.

Court Calendars This Day.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS.—Nos. 6, 45, 55, 68, 69, 90, 96, 101, 103, 104, 115, 178, 179. GENERAL TERM.—Nos. 124, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181,