



"How to the Line. Let the Chips Fall Where they May."

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Sept. 15, 1897.

THE AMERICAN NAVY.

SOME NOTES OF INTEREST AT THE PRESENT TIME.

The Ships, Their Classification, Kind of Guns and War Appliances Employed and Other Matters of Some Importance Just Now.

The United States is the fifth naval power in the world. The navies of Great Britain, France, Russia and Italy rank ahead in the order named. Germany and the United States are about tied.

Our present effective fighting force consists of four battleships of the first class, one battleship of the second class, two armored cruisers, eighteen cruisers, fifteen gun boats, six double-turreted monitors, one ram, one dynamite gunboat, one dispatch, one transport and eight torpedo boats.

The Iowa weighs nearly 12,000 tons, and as twenty tons is the average load of a freight car and twelve cars is a good load for a locomotive engine, it would take fifty locomotives to haul the great steel structure.

The powder used is brown and in chunks the size of a caramel. A charge for the biggest guns weighs 500 pounds and is hoisted to the breech by a derrick, the powder being sewed up in burlap bags.

Armor plates are tested by firing steel projectiles weighing from 100 to 1,500 pounds at them from guns charged with 500 pounds of powder and at a distance of about a city block.

Our battleships have a speed of from fifteen to seventeen knots an hour. Cruisers make nineteen to twenty-four knots, while the monitors can travel only five to seven knots.

The biggest guns in the navy are forty-nine feet long, big enough for a man to crawl into; four feet in diameter at their largest part, and weigh 135,000 pounds, or thereabouts.

There are six rear-admirals in active service. The offices of vice-admiral and admiral are unfilled, so there is no head of the navy excepting Secretary Long.

Barnacles form on the hull of a ship, impeding its speed. A six months' cruise will decrease the speed of a ship 15 per cent, and it must go into dry dock.

Sixty-one merchant vessels belong to the auxiliary navy. These ships are subsidized and by contract must be given to the United States on demand.

Some of the guns in the navy can fire a shot twelve miles, farther than a man can see, for the guns are aimed and sighted by machinery.

The amount expended by the navy department in 1897 was \$34,561,546. This is a larger sum than has been expended in any year since 1866.

In a battle, the woodwork and all articles of wood are either stowed below or thrown overboard, lest the men be injured by splinters.

The origin of the navy department may be said to date from Oct. 13, 1775, when Congress authorized the equipment of two cruisers.

The fastest vessels in the navy are the torpedo boats Porter and Dupont, each of which can travel 27.5 knots an hour.

Battleships cost from \$2,500,000 to \$3,750,000, and cruisers from \$600,000 to \$3,000,000. A good torpedo boat costs over \$100,000.

Battle-ships are for the heavy work; cruisers are the commerce destroyers; monitors are useful only for coast defense.

The Indiana could lie outside Sandy Hook and throw 1,200-pound shots into New York at the rate of four a minute.

Those artists who show smoke in their pictures of naval battles are wholly wrong. Smokeless powder is used.

All of the cruisers are named in honor of cities, and the battle-ships, except the Kearsarge, in honor of States.

The "grog" ration was abolished in 1863, and since then the crew has been forbidden to drink while on duty. Marines are the police on board ship. Originally they were employed to prevent mutiny among the sailors.

The guns of a battle ship can carry from six to twelve miles, carrying a shot weighing half a ton.

Only 60 per cent. of the enlisted men are Americans, and a smaller percentage yet are native born. Projectiles thrown by naval guns are shaped much as the bullets thrown by the ordinary rifle.

A big battle-ship has on board an electric plant capable of lighting a town of 5,000 inhabitants.

torpedo-boat destroyers; Uncle Sam has only eight.

Five hundred and twenty-six men are required to man the cruiser New York.

Battleships are covered with armor of nickel steel from five to seven inches thick.

We have four armored battleships—the Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, and Texas.

A submarine torpedo boat to be known as the Flunger is now under construction.

At present the total enlisted force of the naval militia is 3,870 officers and men.

Behind the heavy armor there is a padding of either corn pith or cocoa husks.

It costs \$500 every time one of the big guns on board a ship is fired.

The Brooklyn and the New York are our armored cruisers.

Sailors are paid from \$9.50 to \$12.50 per month and board.

An act of Congress in 1872 abolished flogging in the navy.

The American navy has practically all been built since 1883.

A captain in the navy ranks with a colonel in the army.

The oldest iron vessel is the Michigan built in 1844.

Five battleships are now under construction.

We have the only ram—the Katharine.

Teddie Tucker's Two Terrapins

The tortuous Tiber trends through Tuscany. To Tuscany the Tuckers toured, timely taking the train. Two truckmen transported their trunks. Teddie Tucker took two tremendous terrapins. Terrible thunder told towering tempests to tumble. Teddie, fearful, trembled to the toes. Through the tempest, through tunnels, too, the trusty train tolled to Tuscany. There the track terminated. Then the trolley transferred them to the tavern.

Tuesday Teddie took the terrapins to the Tiber. They, though torpid, trod the turf. They tired toilers to twigs, trying therewith to clutch therewith the tumbledown tenements; tricky traders traffic; terriers, tormenting tame tabbies, toss them topsy turvy; tree tons tuncfully trill their treble tones; tulips thickly thrive.

Teddie tightly tied the terrapins to tree, then toying, tipping, tried to touch the Tiber, twice, thrice; then, topping, tasted the Tiber.

"Tommy Tinker!" Teddie thundered.

Thomas Tinker, Tuscany's tailor, thinking Teddie troubled, therefore tramped to the Tiber. Thomas threw the tape that tied the terrapins to Teddie.

"There, Teddie, take the tape." The twisted tape, tangled, tore Teddie's thumbs. The terrapins thereupon tenaciously took Teddie's trousers 'twixt their teeth. Thomas, tugging, took the tape. Thus together they triumphantly transplanted Teddie to terra firma.

'Twas twilight. Trifling takes time. Thankful Teddie trudged to the tavern to the table. Toast, turkey, truffles, tomatoes, trooped through Teddie's throat. Tired Teddie then trotted to tub, thence to trundled. Thursday the tourists traveled to Toulon.

The Tiber trails through Tuscany, through transcendent thoroughfares, through thrifty towns. The terrapins, transferred to the Tiber, tarry there together.

Longest Fence in the World.

The longest fence in the world is probably that which has just been finished by the Erie Cattle Company along the Mexican border. It is 75 miles in length and separates exactly for its entire distance the two republics of North America. The fence was built to keep the cattle from running across the border and falling easy prey to the Mexican cow punchers. Although it cost a great deal of money, it is estimated that cattle enough will be saved in one year to more than pay for it. It is a barbed wire fence, with mesquite and cottonwood poles, and for the entire length it runs as straight as the crow flies.

PELHAM, in the State of New York, is the smallest village in the country and a short time ago a miniature election was held. All of Pelham's nine voters went to the polls and cast their nine ballots for or against an appropriation of \$15,000 for road improvements. It took ten minutes to get the vote in, and the result was six ballots to three, favoring the appropriation.

A WOMAN SHERIFF.

MISS CLAIRE FERGUSON, OF SALT LAKE, A DEPUTY.

She Is an Ardent Democrat—Wm. J. Bryan's Name on Her Bond—She Stumped the State for Bryan and Was Called the Mascot of the Party.

Miss Claire Ferguson, of Salt Lake City, Utah, occupies, perhaps, the most novel and dangerous position of any young woman in the country. She is Deputy Sheriff of Salt Lake county, and was appointed to that position in the regular manner by Sheriff Lewis, of the same county. Miss Ferguson formerly filled the position of stenographer in the Sheriff's office, but recognizing her ability and cleverness, Mr. Lewis rewarded her by promotion. From now on she will serve papers and notify jurors, says the New York Herald, and it is expected that open venires henceforth will result in juries of much younger men than have usually graced the jury box in the past. Her position is one of responsibility, and when taking the oath of office she was compelled to file a bond of \$5,000, and as she is an ardent Democrat, she takes much pride in the fact that the name of W. J. Bryan was attached to this document.

Although Miss Ferguson's duties, as a rule, will not carry her into places of danger, a Deputy Sheriff is supposed to be always ready to go forth when the Sheriff calls. Therefore, those things which this daring young lady may be called upon to do as a matter of business would make the average girl shrink in terror. For instance, there is a possibility that she may be appointed Lord High Executioner, and be compelled to officiate as hangman, or hangwoman, as it happens in this case.

Then again she may have to go out on the trail of fierce brigands and see that they are safely escorted to jail. In this latter capacity she may be obliged to use a rifle or revolver now and then to compel the lawbreakers to submit to her will. It may also fall to her lot to take the prisoners out on the highway and keep watch of the chain gang while they are engaged in improving the public roads. In fact, the duties of a Deputy Sheriff are as multifarious as they are dangerous, and Miss Ferguson may be sorry some day that she tackled the situation.

In speaking of her novel position to a Herald representative the young lady gives her views of the matter as follows:

"I fully realized what I was undertaking when I first made up my mind to apply for the position. Before I was appointed Deputy Sheriff, I acted as stenographer in the Sheriff's office, and, although the duties were not difficult to perform, I grew very tired of the work and longed for a change. Now I am outdoors in the open air most of the time, and I never tire of the work. There is something new and interesting every day.

"Now, yesterday, just to illustrate this point, I was given a subpoena to serve on a man who had eluded every known method that had been tried on him by other members of our office. There was spice in this for me, and I at once resolved to capture or corner my man. I succeeded in carrying out my plans to the letter, and the subpoena was served without more delay. I like to do things out of the ordinary, and perhaps my love for such things is directly responsible for my promotion.

"I know, also, that events may come up at any time which may place me in dangerous places, but I am willing to take my chances. Why should I fear more than the men? The duties of the Sheriff's office must be performed, and if a woman has the proper amount of self-reliance and energy I cannot see why she should not be perfectly able to carry out her orders as well as a man. I feel that I can, and I am going to strive during my term in office to perform my duties faithfully and without shirking the unpleasant portion of the work."

Miss Ferguson was born and raised in the State of Utah and was educated at the State university. She has taken an active interest in politics since she was a child, and during the last campaign stumped the State of Utah with a party of speakers in the interest of Bryan and silver. They called her the "mascot" of the Democratic party, and it has been frequently remarked that she has made more votes than all the speakers put together. Miss Ferguson has always wished to study law and may do so yet, being a naturally gifted orator. She is very fond of outdoor sports, particularly riding and driving, and is an enthusiastic wheelwoman.

Miss Ferguson has had a good musical education and is a favorite in social circles, being one of the recog-

ized leaders of the younger set. She is a daughter of Mrs. Dr. Ellen B. Ferguson, who attracted considerable attention as the only woman delegate in the National Democratic convention at Chicago. Mrs. Ferguson is President of the Democratic clubs in Utah and the leading woman politician of the State. Miss Ferguson's father before his death was a practicing physician at Salt Lake City, and through him she is related to the late Gen. U. S. Grant. On her mother's side, Miss Ferguson belongs to the Brooke family of England, and is very proud of the fact that she is a lineal descendant of the great Earl Warwick, the "King Maker." Miss Ferguson's appointment is probably due to the fact of her great popularity in the Democratic party.

FORTUNES BY ACCIDENT.

San Francisco Chronicle.

If there is anything that makes a poor, toiling man happy it is to read about lukes that have made fortunes. For instance, there was a captain of a vessel plying between English and Australian who made a lucky strike when convicts were taken to New South Wales.

A "time-expired" man came to the mariner and begged to be taken home. The former convict had no money, but he would gladly give his plot of land for transportation.

The captain accepted the terms, and great is the joy of his descendants, for that plot is now occupied by a wharf and is valued at \$1,125,000.

A Limerick tobaccoist believed himself to be ruined by a fire that destroyed his shop. The next day he found tons of snuff that had been in the fire. Curiosity prompted him to open the canisters. He found that the action of the flames had materially improved the aroma and pungency of the snuff. The discovery made him very rich.

The discovery of the Mount Sheba mine was purely a fluke, and its output of gold is the greatest of any mine in the world except in Klondike district.

A bank clerk in London held that there was a rich deposit of gold at a certain place at the Cape of Good Hope. He set about forming a provisional syndicate among his fellow-clerks, and they raised about \$1,500 among themselves. A mining engineer was sent out. He made a thorough investigation but found no gold. He had decided to give up the search and was ready to leave for home when he ran across a miner.

"Well, stranger," he said, "I guess you are on a hunt for the shiny. 'Tain't here, boss."

"Have you a claim here?" asked the engineer.

"Yes, and I want to make tracks up the country. That's my claim over by that camel's hump. You can have it for \$100, and here's a sample of the quartz. That claim ain't worth its weight in gold, but its worth every dollar I ask for it."

The engineer examined the specimen and decided that there was gold in it. He acted quickly.

"I'll tell you what I'll do, mate," he said. "I'll give you \$80 on the risk of losing it."

The bargain was struck and the claim carefully explored. An abundance of gold was found in the most unlikely vein. To day the shares, the face value of which is \$100, are worth \$500,000 each.

Another Big Nugget.

The Klondike is not the whole thing. A 70-pound nugget, worth \$20,000, has been found in a Russian mining district in eastern Asia. The information comes from the American consul at Moscow, whither the news had been sent from Tomsk. It was found in the Spasso Preobrazhensk mines, situated on the river Chibyeik, in the district of Yeansay. In size this ranks eleventh among the nuggets on record. Only one larger was ever found in Russia. There is no doubt that rich and extensive gold deposits will be unearthed in Siberia. For a long time mining has been done there mostly by convict labor and on a limited scale. With the opening up of the country by the railroad a considerable immigration will occur, and mining will be extended and developed, along with agriculture and commerce. The yield of gold may be expected to increase rapidly, and there is a great deal of promising ground to be worked, and quartz of rich quality is also to be found. These auriferous deposits doubtless extend into Manchuria, the newly acquired province, which is in itself a small empire with great natural resources. The next gold rush may be to Siberia. If the trend of the gold deposits were followed from California it would probably be found to extend in an almost unbroken line northward to the Yukon and on into Siberia and China.

WHO PLACED THEMINE

A MAN BY THE NAME OF CRANDALL SAYS HE DID IT.

Secret Service Agents Said to Have Captured Him in Chicago—His Alleged Confession—It is of Surpassing Importance, if True.

The Times-Herald, of Chicago, of the 15th inst. says:

Charles A. Crandall, alias Emanuel Escadaro, who, acting under the personal orders of Captain-General Weyler, planted the mines and torpedoes in the harbor of Havana, has been run to earth in Chicago. Last night he was in the custody of three United States secret service agents, who are taking him to Washington, where he is expected to give information to prove beyond any possible doubt that the Maine was blown up by a mine, and her 266 officers and men murdered designedly by agencies known to the Spanish officials. He was run down by a Cuban spy.

Ever since the Maine was blown up Crandall, or Escadaro, has been dodging about the country. When the secret service agents assured him he would be protected he, volunteered to accompany them.

Crandall's statements are substantiated by letters in his possession from Weyler's officers and from Weyler himself. His story is as follows:

"My name is Charles A. Crandall. I am an American by birth and formerly lived in New York city. I served in the United States navy on the cruiser San Francisco under Captain Sampson and Admiral Brown. It was while in the United States service that I made a study of mines and torpedoes. I left the navy and went to Lima, Peru, where I entered the employ of Grace & Co., of London, in their nitrate beds.

"While at Lima I met many Spaniards. One of them, Emil Liestello, an agent of the Spanish government, induced me to go to Cuba as an expert on coast defense for General Weyler. I was given free transportation to the island, and when I arrived there I met Antonio Marco Diaz, who assigned me to harbor work and platting for torpedo and mine anchorage. I began laying the mines and torpedoes early in the spring of 1896 and finished a year later.

"My work was performed at night. I was assisted by five Italian laborers and two Spanish boatmen. In all 17 mines and 10 torpedoes were placed. The mines were made in England and the torpedoes in Italy. The work of laying them was very slow, because it was ordered that I should not work on moonlight nights. When my work was completed I made a chart showing the location of all the mines and torpedoes and submitted it to General Weyler.

"I was then directed to place three mines and seven torpedoes in the harbor of Matanzas. This was completed early in last July. When I had finished General Weyler ordered me to place an additional mine near buoy No. 4, which made a complete chain of mines about the harbor from side to side from the mouth of the harbor to the last anchorage.

"On one occasion General Weyler sent for me to visit him at the palace with the direction that I should appear in the uniform of an officer of artillery, sent me for that purpose. When I went to the palace General Weyler asked me if it were possible for a ship to enter the harbor and leave it with the chain of torpedoes and mines there. I showed him my rough chart and he especially directed several changes, especially in the channel opposite the navy yard.

"When my work was done and his artillery aid had approved the plans, he handed me my passport to Key West and assured me that I would receive pay when the first mine or torpedo was used.

"I remained in Havana until February 10, when I went to Key West, where I stayed until March 3, on which date I received my last Spanish gold from Havana from a Spanish messenger.

"After the Maine was blown up I kept in hiding with a colored family near Fort Taylor, and as soon as I received word to skip out I left as a stowaway on the first steamer for Miami.

"The Maine was anchored at the identical buoy where General Weyler ordered me to place the additional mine, officially known as buoy No. 4.

"From Miami I went to Nashville, where I received the following letter from Havana, dated March 1, 1898:

"Destroy all evidence. Go to New York. Ticket for London awaits you there.

"This was from Weyler's long-trusted adjutant and spy, who executes all edicts issued by Weyler from Spain."

TEN COUNTS AGAINST SPAIN.

From report of "Committee on the State of the Country" to the New York M. E. conference:

We believe that the following facts constitute an indictment demanding the expulsion of Spanish rule from Cuba:

First—Its destruction of commercial interests of the United States, already making an invoice of millions of treasure.

Second—Its insolent searching of our merchantmen on the high seas and repudiation of claims for restitution.

Third—Its cowardly insult to our honored President by its Representative to our nation's capital.

Fourth—Its trivial treatment of international diplomatic relations.

Fifth—Its requiring the United States, in obedience to humiliating treaty obligations, to police the seas to prevent the extension of aid to struggling patriots seeking aid.

Sixth—Its criminally permissive, if not ordered, destruction of the United States battleship Maine, with the loss of the lives of 266 American defenders.

Seventh—Its barbarity and inhumanity in the methods of warfare, with its treacherous murder of men, its herding and starving of aged men and women and children to the extent of over four hundred thousand in number; its ingenious and exterminating tortures of a people it has neither the courage nor the vigor to conquer.

Eighth—Its sacrilegious pretext of claiming to be a Christian nation.

Ninth—Its prostitution of the moral sense of our nation by obliging it for years to look upon and become familiar with fiendish barbarism, so near us that we can almost hear the cries of its victims.

Tenth—Its paralyzing power upon the Christian civilization of the century by holding in darkness denser than that of the middle ages, the inhabitants of the fairest island of the sea.

War Taxes.

Members of the ways and means committee have been busily engaged with treasury officials in work preliminary to drafting a war revenue measure to be introduced in Congress immediately upon the opening of hostilities with Spain. An increase in the internal revenue tax on beer from \$1 to \$2 per barrel, and a large increase in the tax on manufactured tobacco, including cigars and cigarettes has been practically agreed upon. Bank checks, bills of exchange, drafts, deeds, mortgages and other papers of this class, patent medicines and nostrums, in all probability, will also be added to the list.

A rough estimate of the receipts to be derived from these sources is that the increase on these articles alone will approximate, if not exceed, \$100,000,000 a year. Beer, it is thought, will produce an increase of \$35,000,000; tobacco, an increase of \$33,000,000 or more; and commercial and patent medicines, \$33,000,000.

Another source of revenue, which is certain to be availed, is transactions in railroad and other listed stocks. It is believed that the returns from this source will be large.

In all figuring so far, the remaining industries and the professions which were taxed strictly for war revenue during the rebellion have been left out of the account.

An increase from 2 to 3 cents on letter postage and a tax on gas and electric light has also been suggested to the department, but these items have not been considered. The increase of 1 cent an ounce on letter postage probably would augment the receipts by \$30,000,000 a year.

An Open Letter to Mothers.

We are asserting in the courts our right to the exclusive use of the word "Castoria," and "Pitcher's Castoria," as our Trade Mark.

I, Dr. Samuel Pitcher, of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of "Pitcher's Castoria," the same that has borne and now does bear the facsimile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher on every wrapper. This is the original "Pitcher's Castoria" which has been used in the homes of the mothers of America for over thirty years. Look carefully at the wrapper and see that it is the kind you have always bought, and has the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher on the wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except Chas. H. Fletcher, is President.

SAMUEL PITCHER, M. D.
March 8, 1897.

A FARMER of Herndon, Va., has a pet toad which follows him around the place. When the farmer sent the toad as a gift to a friend in Washington, the toad hopped back to Herndon, a distance of 10 miles.

ROBERT MARR, Home Drug Store.

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