

# BIG TWIN WARSHIPS LAUNCHED

## Kearsarge and Kentucky Glide Into the Waters of James River.

### Purity and Patriotism Blended in the Ceremonies Attending the Christening of the New Champions.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., March 24.—The first great battleship launched from a private yard in the South kissed the water in the James River at 10:02 to-day at the immense plant of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company. At 11:35 a second ship the exact counterpart of the first one, except in name, followed. They were christened respectively the Kearsarge and the Kentucky, broad and historic names that have just representatives in the splendid fighting machines put afloat to-day.

"The ship of the nation" was launched first, and long before the hour announced for the ceremony 18,000 people were pushing and jostling around the powerful hull of No. 18, as the Kearsarge was known in the shipyard. Just before the preliminary preparations were finished the christening party arrived, and was conducted through the vast throng to the early decorated stage by the bow of the Kearsarge.

The party was composed of Mr. Calvin B. Orount, president of the Newport News Shipbuilding Company; Mrs. Herbert Winslow, sponsor for the Kearsarge, and her maid of honor, Miss Margaret Eastman of Washington; Miss Christine Bradley, sponsor for the Kentucky, and her maids of honor, the Misses Mary Gatewood, Lillian Stege, Sallie Bronston, Abbie Ballard and Alice Castleman, all of the Blue Grass State; Miss Anna Webb of Paducah, Ky.; Mrs. William O. Bradley, Governor Tyler of Virginia and staff, and a number of State officials of Kentucky; Lieutenant-Commander Herbert Winslow, U. S. N., the only surviving son of the captain who commanded the famous old Kearsarge, together with the Alabama; members of the House and Senate Committee on Naval Affairs and other distinguished visitors from Washington.

A saw saved the pieces that hold the Kearsarge in place, and the splendid hull started on its journey to the water. As it started Mrs. Winslow broke a bottle of champagne over its bow and exclaimed clearly and distinctly, "I christen thee Kearsarge."

As the vessel glided smoothly into the river cheer after cheer went up from the crowd, and the shrill whistles of the steamers in the harbor welcomed the new naval champion to its natural element. The cruiser Brooklyn and the monitor Puritan, lying out in the stream, were the representatives of the navy present.

The christening party then proceeded to the bow of the Kentucky. This ceremony was an exact counterpart of the former, except that Miss Christine Bradley broke a bottle of champagne over the water from the spring on the old Lincoln farm, and said, "I christen thee Kentucky."

Then, as the vessel started down the way several bottles of old Bourbon whisky were hurled against her sides by Kentuckians who were opposed to the water christening. Water from the spring on the Jefferson Davis farm, in Kentucky, was also smashed on the vessel's sides. Both launchings were successful in every particular.

The invited guests and distinguished visitors then boarded the steamer Newport News and proceeded to the Old Point, where the shipyard officials tendered a magnificent banquet. Covers were laid for 600 persons. It was entirely informal. Among the toasts responded to were "Kentucky," by Governor Bradley, and "Virginia," by Governor Tyler. In his speech Governor Bradley declared the people of Kentucky "earnestly desire that the nation shall intervene to prevent further atrocities upon the suffering people of Cuba; and, if the investigation should justify, to avenge the death of our sailors, not by demanding an indemnity in money, but an indemnity in blood."

Of the ship Kentucky he said: "No ship has ever been christened as it has been. Not according to the custom of pirate Vikings clad with the skins of wild beasts, but with sparkling water from the spring which quenched the thirst of him who gave freedom to a race and saved our country from destruction. Purity and patriotism have to-day been blended in the christening of the ship which I predict will win more fame, gather more laurels and accomplish more good than any that has ever swept over the seas."

There are larger battle-ships afloat than the Kearsarge and the Kentucky were planned. That is the explanation of the fact—a new one in naval design—that these ships, with a displacement of 11,525 tons, draw only 23 feet 6 inches of water—less than the armored cruisers New York and Brooklyn—which would not, combined, be equal in combat to one of the battle-ships.

Light draft on heavy displacement is one of the many valuable qualities of the battle-ships, though by no means the least. Save the Indiana class, they carry the heaviest batteries in accord with modern naval practice, and with primary batteries fully equal to that class, they mount secondary guns in such fashion as to make the combination almost unequalled in naval architecture. The big rifles, four in number, are mounted on two turrets, one sweeping the entire sea from directly ahead to fully half way astern, the other with equal range, placed so that the ship can be fired on either bow or stern. These are of 12-inch caliber, yet the British navy now confines its guns to twelve inch. In inches the difference seems small, yet the American gun has about 25 per cent more power.

At this point in the armament of the ships the American designers have embarked in a bold and enterprising experiment, the result of which will be awaited with interest by the whole maritime world. Instead of descending at one move from the heavy primary battery to the small-caliber rapid-fire guns, as is done in the case of cruisers, it has become the custom of naval architects to interpose a battery of medium caliber guns, six or eight inch guns, for instance, and these are plac-

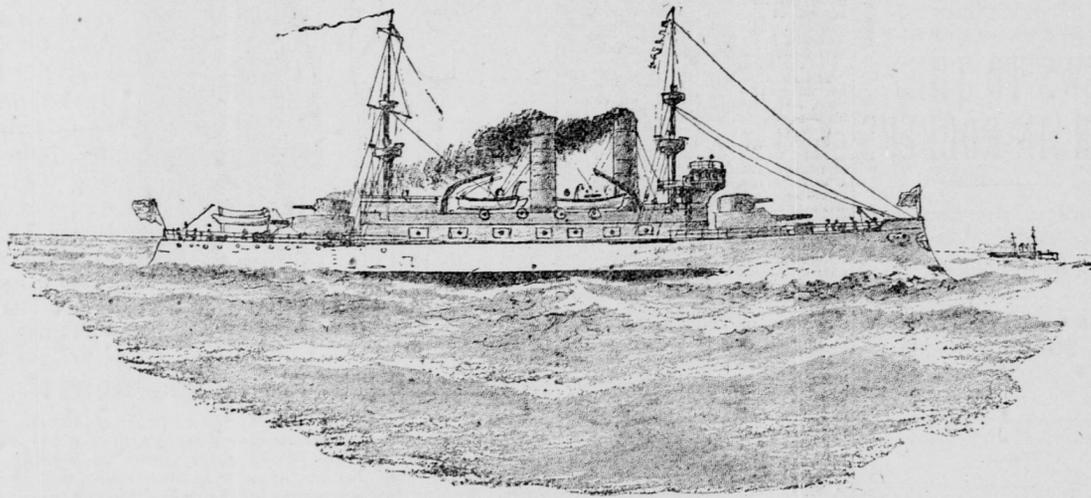
ed in smaller independent turrets about the ship. It occurred to the American designers that if they could dispense with the weighty and space-consuming machinery attached to these turrets, such as the turning engine and machinery, independent ammunition, hoist shields and the like, much more engine power could be placed in the hull of the ship and much more armor could be carried. They solved the problem by rigidly attaching the smaller turrets, each containing two eight-inch rifles, to the top of the big thirteen-inch turrets. The plan had another advantage than weight saving. Theoretically, it tended to a terrible concentration of the fire of the ship. Probably the craft does not float that could survive the awful impact from the four guns of one of these combined turrets upon one small section of its hull, and because they are trained in unison their projectiles must strike close together.

The Kearsarge and the Kentucky are 368 feet in length, 72 feet 5 inches beam and 23 feet 6 inches draft. They carry, normally, 410 tons of coal, but may take aboard 1210 tons, and 511 officers, sailors and marines are required to navigate each of them.

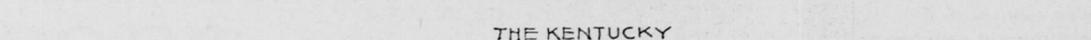
#### CHRISTENERS OF THE NEW BATTLE-SHIPS.

Two Noted Women Who Have the Honor of Naming the Latest Additions to Our Navy.

Miss Christine Bradley, who christened the new United States battle-ship Kentucky, is the only daughter of Kentucky's first Republican Governor, William O'Connor Bradley. She is in her eighteenth year. Her mother was Miss Margaret Duncan, cousin of Lieutenant Hugh McKee, U. S. N., who died while storming a citadel in Korea. Miss Bradley is a niece of Colonel W. R. McKee, who fell at Buena Vista; a



THE KEARSARGE.



THE KENTUCKY.

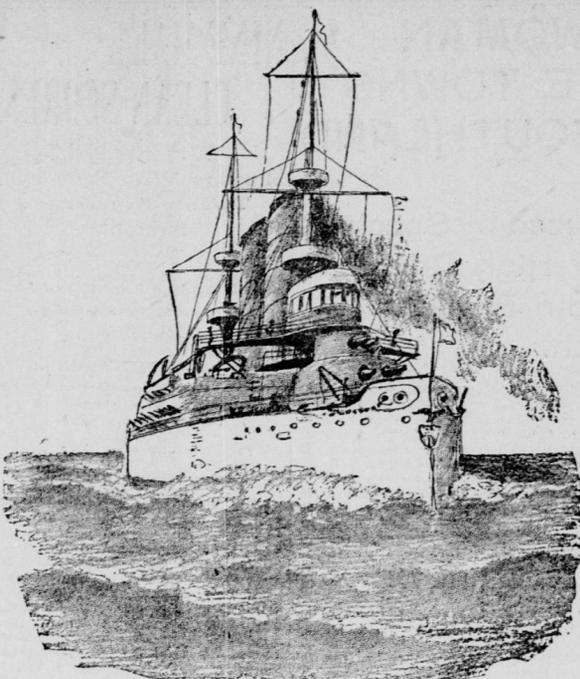


Two New Battle-Ships and the Women Who Christened Them.

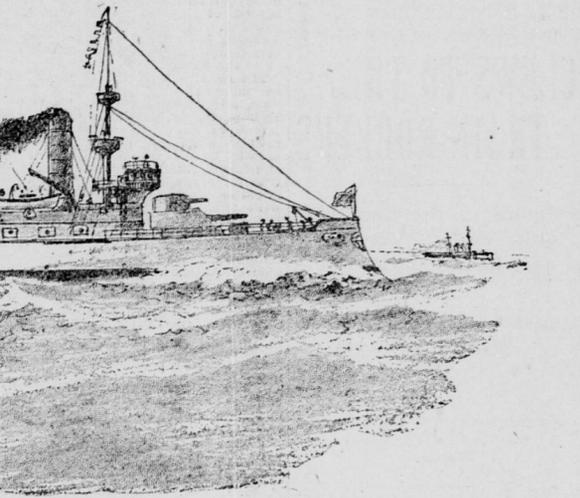
ers Powerful and Terrible, yet it is doubtful whether any prudent naval commander, even leaving out of his calculations that great factor represented by the superb fighting qualities of the American sailor, would care to venture a hostile meeting with one of these steel "bulldozers of the seas," for the new American battle-ships embody in their design and construction the highest development up to this date in offensive and defensive warfare as the great game of naval strife would be played on the coast line of the United States. Into their broad hulls are packed all of the engine power, armor and the ordnance that the highest scientific ability is able to concentrate in a floating structure that is able to seek a base of operations, a supply of fuel and ammunition and an opportunity to heal wounds received in battle. Larger ships, those of deeper draft necessarily, may not enter or attack our ports at fighting range, and this consideration was always kept in mind by Chief Constructor Hichborn when the Kearsarge and the Kentucky were planned. That is the explanation of the fact—a new one in naval design—that these ships, with a displacement of 11,525 tons, draw only 23 feet 6 inches of water—less than the armored cruisers New York and Brooklyn—which would not, combined, be equal in combat to one of the battle-ships.

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## TO LAY PLANS FOR A CAMPAIGN AGAINST SPAIN

### Steps Taken to Arrange for the Active Co-operation of the Army and Navy.

NEW YORK, March 24.—A Washington special to the Herald says: To prepare plans to be followed jointly by the naval and military forces in defense of the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific coasts an Army and Navy Coast Defense Board was created to-day, consisting of Captain A. S. Barker, formerly in command of the battle-ship Oregon, to represent the navy, and Captain J. H. Dorst, Fourth Cavalry, on the part of the army. Captain Dorst may not be able to continue to serve on the new board and another officer of the army may be detailed in his place. This matter is in the hands of Secretary Alger to-night, and the permanent army member will be decided upon to-morrow.

Assistant Secretary Roosevelt urged upon the officials of the Navy and War departments the necessity for a concerted plan of action by both departments. The wisdom of such a course appealed strongly to Secretaries Long and Alger, and a conference of these officials resulted in the detail of the officers named. Subject to the approval of the Secretaries of War and the Navy, the recommendation of these officers will direct the disposition of the entire war strength of the United States. They will suggest not only the massing or distribution of troops and the stations of naval vessels for the purpose of coast defense, but will also arrange plans for active offensive campaigns. All information in possession of both the War and Navy departments will be at their service. Their headquarters will be in Washington. Their

first and most important duty will be to make a careful study of the resources of the navy and army, both actual and potential, for the purpose of putting the entire coast line of the country in as thorough condition of defense as possible. Conferences will be held with the chiefs of bureaus of the army, that the possibilities of extending the effective strength of artillery at coast defense ports may be ascertained; that the condition and possibilities of rapid progress in the work of fortification may be determined and the resources of the Ordnance, Quartermaster, Commissary and other departments may be put to efficient use.

The same general plan will be pursued with regard to naval strength. Stations will be assigned to ships where they can do the best service individually and in fleets, and every detail with regard to supplies, rendezvous and enforcement in respect to coast defense will be carefully looked after.

The board will make a thorough study of conditions looking to offensive operations against the fleets and armies of Spain. This will include arrangements for the concentration of the troops best fitted for the invasion of Cuba, if such a plan should be decided to be advisable. The points of embarkation and the ships that will carry troops will be definitely decided upon, together with the ships that shall constitute the squadron or squadrons to which will be given the work of attacking Spanish fleets both in the neighborhood of Cuba and upon the high seas.

His own wife, this statement of the Judge-Advocate cannot be denied or questioned and is of the greatest interest and value just at this time. Mrs. Marix put the Maine in commission two years ago and was executive officer under Captain Crowninshield, and later with Captain Sigbee, who is one of the most brilliant officers in the navy. Commander Marix left the Maine, being detailed to the Vermont, six weeks before the explosion. I knew the officers of the Maine very well, of course, and met Lieutenant Jenkins and Ensign Merritt at a luncheon when we were playing at Norfolk last November. "We inspected the vessel, and I remember having been shown the magazines and inquiring as to the possibility of an explosion. Commander Marix replied that if such a thing were possible there would be nothing left to tell the tale. This is brought to my mind through the public prints, which told that the Maine's magazines were intact. I am deeply interested in the outcome of this complication, as hundreds of thousands of others are. War is a terrible thing, and of course in the event of a conflict the contest would be a naval one. That is where it is brought home to me."

To Cure a Cold in One Day Take Laxative Broom Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. The genuine has L. B. Q. on each tablet.

# WOULD SEND GUNS WITH THE FOOD

## Senator Thurston's Most Dramatic Plea for the Cubans.

### Carries Out Request of a Dying Wife by Crying Out Against the Fearful Slaughter by Spain.

Call Office, Riggs House, Washington, March 24.

A scene dramatic in the intensity of its interest was presented in the Senate to-day during the delivery by Thurston of Nebraska of a speech on the Cuban situation. Not since the inauguration of President McKinley have so many people been on the Senate floor, the galleries were packed with people, many of whom had arrived at the Capitol as early as 9:30 in order to obtain seats. Even the diplomatic gallery, which is rarely occupied, was filled, among those in it being Senor Mendonca, the Brazilian Minister, and party, ex-Secretary of State John W. Foster and Mrs. Foster, and many ladies and gentlemen from the various foreign legations.

Within a few minutes after the Senate convened every Senator who could be present was in his seat, and by the time Thurston began his speech dozens of members of the House were either standing or occupying chairs in the arena without the semi-circle of seats. A jar of roses had been placed on Thurston's desk, but he spoke from that of Hawley, in the central part of the chamber.

His first sentence he spoke by command of silent lips—a delicate and touching reference to the loss of his wife on his memorable trip to Cuba—commanded instant attention. A hush fell over the great audience, which hung with almost breathless attention and interest upon every word. Some surprise had been expressed that Senator Thurston should appear in public prominently so soon after the death of Mrs. Thurston, but the first sentence of his speech furnished a key to his action. It is true that Thurston's speech to-day, viewed from one standpoint, was an unusual proceeding, but it was justified by the conditions attending it. Mrs. Thurston's dying wish to her husband was that he should lose no time on account of her death to do his utmost to save and free Cuba and its people.

In accordance with this request, therefore, Senator Thurston sacrificed his personal feeling and delivered his speech—a speech that was a tribute to the memory of his wife. Without knowing the motive which had inspired him to his best efforts, his auditors instinctively realized and sympathized with his emotion.

The speech was very generally received with mastery one, and even those who could not agree with his conclusions conceded the power of his oration. As he neared the end of the speech his voice, which had been clear and strong, grew hoarse and he almost overcame with emotion, but rallied with an effort and closed in a manner that thrilled his audience.

Staid and dignified Senators crowded away and up the galleries tears welled to hundreds of eyes. It was a remarkable scene, and the stillness upon the last word had been pronounced was as of death itself. As Thurston sank into his seat and buried his face in his hands the galleries were swept by such a tumult of applause as has not in a long time been heard in the Senate chamber. As Thurston rose to his feet and turned to the speaker's table, the galleries were filled with a tumult of applause and cheering.

"Mr. President," began Thurston. "I am here by command of silent lips to speak once and for all upon the Cuban situation. I trust that no one has expected anything sensational from me. God forbid that the bitterness of a personal loss should induce me to color in the slightest my mind or my voice. It is my duty to make, I have no purpose to stir the public passion in any act not necessary, and am prepared to meet the duties and necessities of American responsibility, Christian and national honor. I would shirk this task if I could, but I dare not. I cannot satisfy my conscience except by speaking and speaking now."

Thurston said he had gone to Cuba firmly believing that the condition of affairs on the island had been greatly exaggerated. He had concluded, however, that an overstatement of the horrors of the situation was impossible. He had prepared not only to adopt every word of the careful, concise and specific statement of the Senator from Vermont (Proctor), but was even convinced that he had understated the facts that came under his observation. Thurston said he had no desire to deal in horrors. "If I had my way," said he, "I would shield the American public even from the photographic reproductions of the awful scenes that I viewed in all their original ghastliness."

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#### FRANCE WANTS PEACE

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PARIS, March 24.—Gaston Calmette publishes in this morning's Figaro an interview with M. Hanotaux, in the course of which the latter said:  
"The Cuban question is not our business but that of Spain and the United States. At the same time it will affect us doubly from a moral point of view because we entertain the best and most friendly relations with two countries which are brought face to face by this irritating question."  
"On the one hand is the Queen Regent, a sovereign worthy to be compared with the greatest sovereigns at the head of a sister people toward whom we are drawn by the affinities of race."  
"On the other hand there is the generous people of a sister republic to whom we are united by one hundred years of common life. There must, then, be no conflict between these two nations, who are so strongly attached to us, and who are so close to our hearts. There, as elsewhere, everywhere, France desires above everything and with all her strength, peace."  
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"The Government of Spain will not appropriate one dollar to save these people," said Thurston. "Think of the spectacle. We are feeding these citizens of Spain, we are nursing their sick, we are saving such as can be saved, and yet there are those who still say it is right for us to send food, but we must keep our hands off. I say that the time has come when muskets ought to go with the food."

"I shall refer to these horrible things no further. They are there. God pity me, I have seen them. They will remain in my mind forever. This is the twentieth century. Christ died 1900 years ago and Spain is a Christian nation. She has set up more crosses in more lands, beneath more skies, and under them has butchered more people than all the other nations of the earth combined."

"Europe may tolerate her existence as long as the people of the Old World wish, but God grant that before another Christmas morning the last vestige of Spanish tyranny and oppression will have vanished from the Western Hemisphere."

Discussing the remedy which should be applied, Thurston said:  
"I counseled silence and moderation from this floor when the passion of the nation seemed at white heat over the destruction of the Maine, but it seemed to me the time for action has now come. Not action in the Maine case, I hope and trust that this Government will take action on the Cuban situation entirely outside of the Maine case. When the Maine report is received, if it be found that our ship and sailors were blown up by some outside explosive, we will have ample reparation without quibble or delay, and if the report of the Maine is such as to Spanish official sources there will be swift and terrible punishment adjudged as will remain a warning to the world forever."

Advertisements. The sick, nervous, fretful, restless, helpless, irritable, woman making life miserable. If it is a good-tempered, good man, he tries to soothe and comfort her. If it is only an ordinary man, he swears and gets drunk. Few men realize what it is that makes a woman cross, fretful and nervous. They do not see to it that their wives took proper care of the health of the organs distinctly feminine, and resorted to the proper remedy to make them strong and healthy in a womanly way. The best medicine for nervous, fretful, irritable women is Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It goes to and corrects the cause. It acts directly on the female organism and restores it to natural health and vigor. It soothes inflammation and corrects all weakening drains. It will make a sick woman well, and a fretful, cross woman happy and amiable. It prepares a woman for the duties of motherhood, and taken during the expectant period makes baby's coming easy and almost painless. Women who wish to know more about this great remedy should write to its discoverer, Dr. R. V. Pierce, chief consultant in medicine, the Invalid Hotel and Surgical Institute, at Buffalo, N. Y.

Mr. S. J. Bartlett (Teacher), of Granger, Sweetwater Co., Wyo., writes: "Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is a boon and a great help to all females. My wife has used your medicine. Prior to taking it, she was constantly troubled with nervous, irregular flows monthly, and frequently other labor incident to that which incapacitated her for the labor incident to raising a large family. Who ever would find a conclusive answer to the problem: 'How to be well?' should send to World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y., for a copy of Doctor Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser. This book is all that a female physician to it uses no technical terms. Its 1,000 pages of graphic explanation and carefully correct illustrations make it a treasure for any household. Its 90 pages especially relating to women are worth many times its original price, which was \$1.50. There is now ready a large edition to be given away. Send 21 one-cent stamps, to pay for mailing only, and you will receive the book in paper covers absolutely FREE. You may have it in fine cloth covers for 10 cents extra."

# Pears'

What is wanted of soap for the skin is to wash it clean and not hurt it. Pure soap does that. This is why we want pure soap; and when we say pure, we mean without alkali. Pears' is pure; no free alkali. There are a thousand virtues of soap; this one is enough. You can trust a soap that has no biting alkali in it. All sorts of stores sell it, especially druggists; all sorts of people use it.