

# Part Played by War Uncle Sam's Marines.

### An Exceedingly Important Branch of the American Navy.

## Heroism in the Past, and Duties in the Present.

In view of the intense interest which at this critical period is being manifested in the various divisions of the army and navy, it is remarkable that little or no attention has been directed to the picturesque body of men constituting one of the most important and attractive branches of the combined service and known as the United States marine corps. Taking into consideration its peerless efficiency and illustrious record on both land and sea, this contingent of warriors, however small in numbers, is undoubtedly entitled to one of the foremost places on the nation's roll of honor.

The origin of the marine corps of this government antedates the organization of the regular navy, having been created by the continental congress, Nov. 10, 1775, which act provided that the following act:

"Resolved, That two battalions of marines be raised, consisting of one colonel, two lieutenants, colonels, two majors and other officers, as usual in other regiments; that they consist of an equal number of privates with other battalions; that particular care be taken that no persons be appointed to officers or enlisted into said battalions but such as are good seamen, or so acquainted with maritime affairs as to be able to serve for and during the present war between Great Britain and the colonies, unless dismissed by order of congress; that they be distinguished by the name of the First and Second battalions of American Marines."

fame upon the immortal pages of history in their brilliant work under the intrepid dare-devil of the sea, John Paul Jones, in the famous battle between the Ranger and Drake. In this engagement the former's marines, including his brave commander, Lieutenant Wallingford, who fell fighting side by side with the rest of his men, were numbered among the slain, while not a single man of the remaining fourth came out of the fight unscathed.

Yet the battle was won. In the subsequent duty between the Bon Homme Richard and the Serapis, the marines, numbering 120 rank and file, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Stack, and two lieutenants, were the first to reach the decks of the latter, where they fought like demons until the British flag was struck.

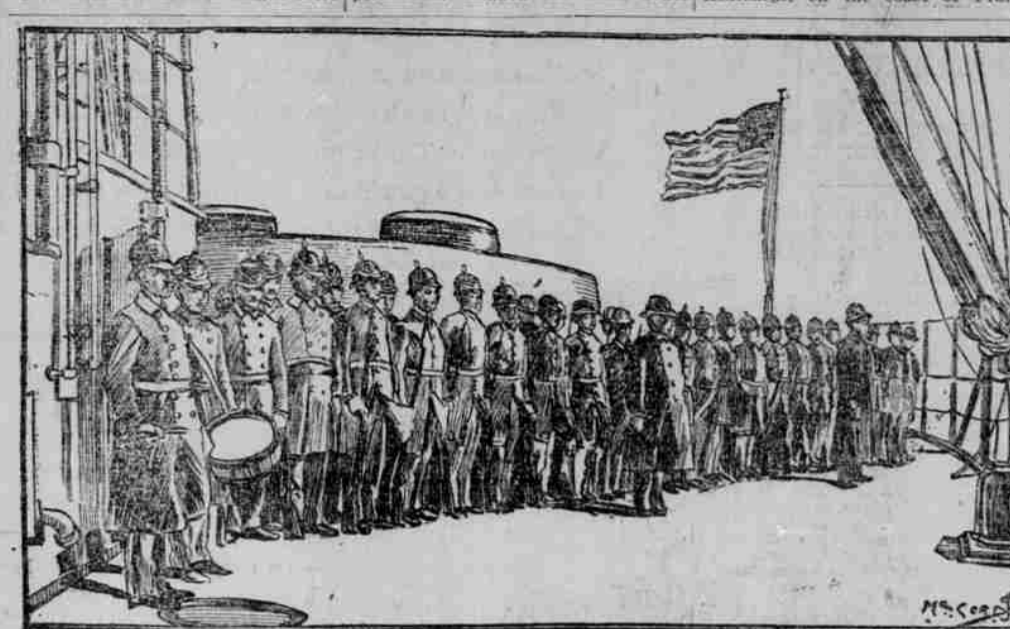
In our brief war with Tripoli in 1805 the marines did not fail to maintain their reputation for valorousness, and in the Philadelphia's attack upon the Tripolitan gunboats, on Aug. 2 of that year, they rendered most gallant services. During this encounter Lieutenant Trip of the marines, became separated from his men, and was assailed by a number of fierce Turks, who were attacking a few of the most notable pieces with their scimitars had not a sergeant dashed into their midst and passed his bayonet through the body of the foremost of his leader's assailants.

But the most momentous exploit on the part of the marine corps in their oriental campaign was during the famous battle of the General Boscawen, near Alexandria to Derne, a distance of 50 miles through the enemy's country, on which occasion Lieutenant O'Bannon won a small detachment of his men on camels, and rendered a number of Arabs and Greeks, temporarily in the United States service, made an attack upon the principal fortification of the city, and by a storm, capturing the battery, and turning the guns upon the flying horde of Mohammedans. Thus, for the first time, was the stars and stripes planted upon a citadel of the eastern hemisphere, and to this day the banners of the marine corps are emblazoned with the brief, but significant inscription:

"In the second war with Great Britain the service of the corps was characterized by great activity and many noteworthy achievements. In the battle between the Constitution and the Guerriere, the first officer on board the former to fall was Lieutenant Bush, engaged at the head of his guard in repelling boarders, who, for the stubborn resistance on the part of the marines would have overrun the vessel, and possibly have turned the tide of the splendid victory which fell to the stars and stripes. The heroic engagement of this war was between the Shannon and Chesapeake, and when the smoke of battle cleared away, it developed that the marine guard of the latter had captured a quantity of munitions and other stores. Following this initial triumph the marines again registered their

deplorably wounded. In the great battle of Lake Erie the marine corps was again conspicuous by the great mortality among its members, sustaining the loss of Lieutenant Brooks of the Lawrence and 18 of his men, who numbered 25 all told.

On land the conduct of the marines was equally brilliant, and upon one occasion, at the battle of Bladenburg, after the militia, under General Windor, had been forced from the field, a small detachment of their number, assisted by the sailors of Commodore Barney's command, stood off the entire British force, scoring to retreat and refusing to surrender until at length there



A MARINE DRILL ON THE CRUISER NEW YORK.

was not an officer or man among them who was not either killed or wounded. During the long interval of years between the close of the war of 1812 and the breaking out of the rebellion many interesting events in the history of the marine corps transpired, but these, with numerous others, by reason of inadequate space, must reluctantly be passed over. Throughout the latter war, however, the marines acquitted themselves with such distinction that not to recount a few of the most noteworthy of their exploits would be a gross injustice to the organization. At the disastrous battle of Bull Run a battalion consisting of 250 marines, the majority of whom were recruits, under Major Reynolds, acted as a support of Griffin's battery, and among the last to leave the field, having suffered

and carried out the undertaking in the face of almost certain destruction. As it was, two out of five of the boats, together with their occupants, never returned to the ship. This devotion to duty called forth the warmest commendation, not only from their officers, but from the entire population of the loyal states.

In the brilliant operations of Farragut's fleet on the lower Mississippi none fought more gallantly than the marines, and at the capture of New Orleans the first to enter the city were 250 of their number, under command of Captain J. L. Broome, his battalion keeping the turbulent populace in subjection until Butler arrived with his troops. The following month a detail from this same battalion served the

loss of nine killed—19 of whom was Lieutenant Hitchcock—19 wounded and 16 missing. In the attack of the confederate ram Merrimack upon the Union fleet the marines sustained a heavy loss, nine having been killed on board the Cumberland by the first shot, while on the Congress the entire guard was wiped out of existence. During the progress of this terrific battle the marines of the Minnesota, St. Lawrence and Roanoke displayed great heroism, those of the former having besought their superior officers to allow them to go to the relief of their perishing comrades, and having received the desired permission, manned the small boats

while passing the Vicksburg batteries, and a few months later at Port Hudson, the ground, distributed among the Hartford, Monongahela, Mississippi and Richmond, was all annihilated, in one instance a single shot having swept away the entire crew of maces at one of the latter's gun positions.

In September of 1863 a company of 100 privates, commanded by Captain Cavoy and six subordinate officers of the corps, volunteered to assist in the night attack upon Fort Sumter, in which assault a lieutenant and 30 of their number were lost. The historical fight between the Alabama and the Kearsarge, off the coast of France,

has, since its organization, fluctuated greatly, not in any sense according to the extent of its usefulness to the government, but through the influence of various legislators. Two years subsequent to the late war, congress, in consideration of its undoubted value as an arm of the national defense, passed an act increasing its quota to 1,747 officers and men, promoting its commanding officer to the rank of brigadier general, but in 1874 another act reduced the number to its former strength of 2,000, and his chief back to the grade of colonel commanding, upon which basis it is maintained at the present day.

The corps is now commanded by Colonel Commandant Charles Heywood, an officer of rare martial attainments and ability, and one well versed in the art of command, to which he has been promoted after having served with distinction throughout the civil war, during which time he repeatedly received honorable mention for exemplary conduct, and after his military resignation in 1865, was successively brevetted major and lieutenant colonel "for distinguished gallantry in the presence of the enemy."

The marine corps partakes, in many features, of both the army and navy, being an adjunct of the former from the academy of which its officers are supplied, while upon the regular army it is entirely distinct from the combined somewhat the elements and appearance of both the artillery and infantry service. The term of enlistment and pay are the same as in the regular army, while the uniform, although bearing a great similarity thereto, is richer and more varied, the dress uniform of a private marine, with its epaulettes and trimmings in crimson, orange and gold, bearing much resemblance to that of a staff officer of the army. The principal distinguishing marks are the device worn on the front of the cap, and, in some instances, on the belt plate, being of metal, and representing a hemispherical resting upon an anchor and surmounting a globe, the globe being of leather and the chevrons of the non-commissioned officers, which are of orange on a scarlet background, and worn inverted on the sleeves. The regulations governing the corps stipulate that three out of the five years' enlistment shall be served on board sea-going vessels, the balance of the term to be spent on land, and in the regular army, according to their respective classes and the stations to which they are assigned, the smaller gunboats generally being allowed a detachment of 12 privates, under a sergeant, while cruisers and battleships may carry as many as 200, from 20 to 75 privates, commanded by a captain or lieutenant. Their duties on shipboard, while involving many details of a routine nature, are of a profoundly important character. An eminent writer once relevantly characterized them as "the bulwark be-

tween the cabin and the fore-castle," which definition is amply supported by the responsibilities with which they are intrusted. A marine sentry is always on duty at the door or at the head of the companionway leading to the commander's quarters, while that dignitary is on board, and the gangways over the sides of the vessel are perpetually guarded by them. When at sea a sentry is kept constantly on post at the life lines, and in the fore-castle, where they also keep strict surveillance over all prisoners, guard the magazines, arm racks and scuttledowns, assist the master-at-arms in preparing orders, and in various other grand gaming and other immorial practices, and stand ready at all times to support the commanding officer in maintaining discipline throughout the ship. But the requirements of the finished marine do not terminate with ordinary police duties. Before he has been long in the service he has mastered the intricate of the various signal codes, and frequently is intrusted with the transmission of important messages from one vessel to another, he becomes a fact master of the rules of naval etiquette and civil etiquette, and takes part in the most imposing of ceremonies pertaining thereto. He can manipulate a Gatling or other rapid gun with the same facility as a musketeer of the old school, and is familiar with the gearings of the vessel from stem to stern, and from truck to keelson. He is, in short, a paragon of miscellaneous accomplishments.

But it is in action that the true merit of the marine are asserted in their most stupendous tasks, when his bravery and fortitude are tested to their utmost. One moment he is ordered into the front to act as a sharpshooter, in an instant he is ordered to pass through a hailstorm of bullets and projectiles from the enemy's guns, and in another is called back to the deck, where he fills the rowlock of a mounted gun division. Others on board may have the comparative good fortune to be assigned to the powder division, but the marine's duties invariably draw them into the thickest of the fight. Now leading the crew as they scale the enemy's hullworks, on the firing of a round shot, he is ordered to the deck, or to the quarter deck—the first to enter the small boats when an attacking party is ordered away, and last to leave the ship when her condition necessitates her abandonment—who can wonder at the laurels won by the marines in bygone wars and in the unfolding transcendency of their fame?—Jose de Olivares, in St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

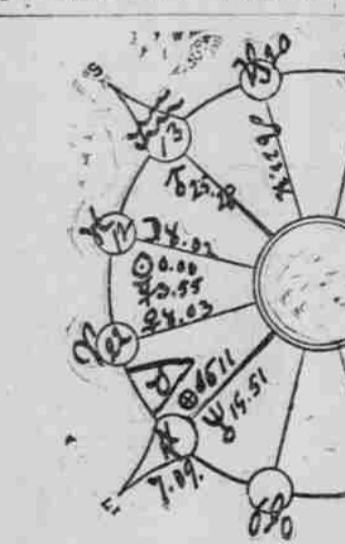
## THE STARS FORETELL PEACE. Some Planetary Pointers on the Spanish-American Situation.

The oldest of sciences is probably astrology. No other can boast of such an illustrious list of names among its believers and exponents. It was the favorite study among the Egyptian priests in the days of Pharaoh and Ramses; we are told that Moses taught and professed it, independently of the gift of prophecy. Solomon did not consider himself too wise to learn from the astrologists, and David sought his escape from Saul, at the time when the latter was coming to Bethel, in a Kish, in their attire. The magicians of the Persians, were astrologers, and the remarkable success of the prophet for the southern Mammoth which was fully realized made it a religious institution among the followers of the prophet of Mecca.

So much for the past of astrology. Most persons do not believe that it is today what it once was. Such is not the case. There are all present in New York City, near a dozen astrologers, some of whom are known as horoscope casters; they variously elect to call themselves, There are others who profess to read the future of the country, and altogether, the profession seems to be in a flourishing and prosperous condition, certainly not without its devotees. The headquarters of the best known New York astrologer is located in one of the Park Row

indicated that, while there is considerable reason to believe for Spain and the United States, which may lead even to a "clash of arms," there will be no war.

To those who are not familiar with the symbols of astrology the diagram may seem a little strange, and a word or two of explanation is necessary. Briefly, the astrologer bases his predictions on the positions of the different planets in the zodiac, each of the planets indicates a certain tendency toward either a favorable or unfavorable outcome, each of the 12 signs of the Zodiac relates to certain subjects. When the relations and influences of the different members of the two groups are known, the prediction becomes comparatively simple. The reckoning is made from the sign Aries, which stands at the present juncture for the Gemini, which, in spite of some discrepancy, is governed by distinctly peaceful influences. This indicates that Spain, however she may bluster, is real-ly anxious to preserve peace, and will endeavor to do so. The stars, on the other hand, are symbolized by Capricorn, which has a present a decidedly belligerent attitude, with Mars in the ascendant. A comparison of the two shows



Next the equipment storehouse is visited and a full allowance of beef, pork, beans, rice, sugar, salt, and flour, meal, clothing, shoes, hammocks, blankets, paint, tobacco—in short, the whole outfit of a man—is taken to the mess department is placed on board. The paymaster of the ship is responsible for the outfit, and a receipt is taken in full. The outfit is then stored in the galley or cooking store, to be examined in full when the voyage is completed. The outfit of a man usually consists of two copper kettles, of 30 gallons each, a tin stove, a tin boiler, iron jacket and copper-hinged covers, two steamers for vegetables, each with a saucer, a line set of tools for fitting and firing, and the ordinary cooking implements.

## ASTROLOGICAL STAR MAP OF THE UNITED STATES.

Advocates. This seer occupies a suite of offices equipped with desks, typewriters, telephones and all the paraphernalia of a modern business establishment. A procession of clients lines this astrologer all day long, and he is not to be seen without a visitor. For this is the astrologer's name, does not look like an exponent of ancient occultism, and he is certainly not a fortune teller or a lawyer. There is no suggestion of hidden mysticism about his workshop, everything is plain, modern and commonplace.

The spectacle afforded by the vast distorting the mystic lore of 4,000 years ago to a modern graphophone may seem a trifle incongruous, but it is merely going to present time, is strictly up to date. In fact it seems to be a little ahead of date. For since bills were introduced in the United States, astrology, "One of the business uses to which his skill is put was shown by the recent election in Philadelphia. One of the candidates for the city council was a Mr. Byram. On looking over the ground after his nomination, Byram made up his mind that the chances were against his election. He decides to work a new system, and he is willing to give up as jobs, deals and combinations, but when it came to backing against the stars in the election, he was willing to give up. Mr. Byram says that he has had other political results, and that combinations and incidents are among his frequent clients.

With this imposing array of precedents, from Moses of Palestine to Byram of Philadelphia, it is interesting to know what the astrologer has to say about the question of the day. Will there be war between Spain and the United States? This problem was presented for the consideration of Aster in a few days ago. After carefully studying the existing astrological situation, the seer constructed the accompanying "war map," which clearly proves to the

that the tide of war falling sets much more strongly in the United States than in Spain. Were Spain anxious for war as is the United States, that result would be inevitable, but from present indications, when the decisive action of the former party will endeavor to avoid an armed conflict.

The other leading indications find their representations in the neighboring sign of Aquarius, and under the zodiac influence of the sun, moon and Venus are decidedly favorable to the United States. Saturn alone is in opposition, and his position in the sky is not so favorable to the country. There are other factors to be taken into account, but the general conclusion of the astrologer is that while there is certain to be a violent disagreement between the United States and Spain, and possibly even an armed conflict, there certainly will be no protracted war.

More than this the chart shows that in the European countries a warlike condition will be prevalent throughout the year, and that a war between foreign nations is certain to occur before the end of next year. The United States will not be drawn into this war, but will benefit therefrom. Unless an astrological sign fall the year 1898 is to be one of unusual prosperity for this country.

## GOING "INTO COMMISSION."

The Exact Meaning of This Current Naval Phrase.

There has been much talk of late about putting vessels of the navy "into commission." The full meaning of the term is something of which few have any adequate conception. To put a modern warship into commission involves an enormous amount of work, which can be easily appreciated only by one who has observed the process from beginning to end.

When a vessel of the navy is laid down, or "in ordinary," as it is called,

mening at 12:30 o'clock with one bell, and continuing till 1 o'clock (eight bells), when the system repeated. From 1 o'clock in the afternoon till 6, and from 8 to 8 the watches are of only two hours duration, and an called dog watch. This is done to break the regular routine and prevent one watch standing the duty of 12 men are kept on deck at night. These are called the anchor watch, and an called dog watch.

Everything having been put in running order, coal taken on board from the electric lights and the ship ready to go to sea, she casts off from the navy yard wharf and proceeds to the powder magazine, which is always situated some distance from the yard. There she takes on her ammunition, and is ready to go to sea. A ship is not permitted by the navy regulations to come into the arsenal with her ammunition in her magazines.

## THE WAR POET.

### A Few Effusions Inspired By the Situation.

Washington, Sept. 15.—When Representative Jerry Simpson, of Kansas, was making his speech in the house the other day on the comparative merits of torpedo boats and battleships, members whose seats adjacent to his were disconcerted by the following bit of poetry, which appeared in a western newspaper, and subsequently in Mr. Simpson's attention.

The new "protected cruiser" cruised upon the ocean wild,  
Till a man-of-war sailed her and punched holes into her side.  
And the man-of-war continued for a little while to be so,  
Till driven to the bottom by a new torpedo boat.

## UNCLE SAM'S SOLDIERS.

### Machinery by Which the Army Would Be Handled in War Time.

It is related of Von Moltke that when awakened in the dead of night with the announcement that France had declared war against Germany, he only remarked: "Look in my cabinet, file A, drawer 21; send off the telegrams you find." Then he turned over and went to sleep again. General Miles is being taken to make it effective, and the head in the fighting part, and one of its most important duties is to protect the body, which consists of wagon trains and lines of supplies; for if the head is injured, the head becomes powerless. It is well to bear this simile in mind in considering the plan of army organization and the steps which are being taken to make it effective.

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## CARE OF THE PROVISIONS WHICH ARE ISSUED TO HIM FOR FORCED MARCHES.

He sets them all out for marching, artillery and transport service have to be supplied and trained. A cavalry horse differs in weight and general character from one which is to serve with the artillery, and his knowledge is required in choosing animals for military service as in selecting men.

**MEDICAL SUPPLIES.**  
Medical officers also have to be commissioned and instructed in the peculiar duties which will devolve upon them, and supplies of drugs, medicines, hospital equipment and kits must be arranged for. Where many new and unseasoned men are gathered there is sure to be more or less call for the services of the medical department of the army. The charge of the surgeon general. The drugs are all supplied by contract.

Soldiers expect to be paid, no matter how much they are fired by patriotism, so the paymaster general and the officers of his department must, through regular channels, see that the private soldier receives his \$15 every month. In short, every department and every officer fills certain duties, and it is the duty of the treasurer of the United States, see that the private soldier receives his \$15 every month. In short, every department and every officer fills certain duties, and it is the duty of the treasurer of the United States, see that the private soldier receives his \$15 every month. In short, every department and every officer fills certain duties, and it is the duty of the treasurer of the United States, see that the private soldier receives his \$15 every month.

ONE DAY FIGHTING IN THIRTY. With an army in the field hardly one day in 20 is given to fighting. The other 29 days of waiting must be lived through in order that everything may be in readiness for the one day of work. It is not the one day of fighting which turns the hair of an officer gray, but the 29 days of anxiety for his men, the supply of their food and clothing and the maintenance of health and good spirits among them. Men do not fight with empty stomachs, and accurate adaptation of the ordinary soldier rarely takes

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To supply an army with weapons is only a small part of the work of equipment. The army must be fed and clothed, and provision must be made for countless contingencies. Wagons, light battery carriages, ambulances, ambulances, and ambulances, by contract, and they can be turned out quickly. Clothing, shoes, hats and like furnishings for the army come under the supervision of the quartermaster general, and the supplies are supplied by contract and stored at the different quartermasters' department storehouses throughout the country. Food supplies are under the supervision of the commissary general of subsistence and are likewise secured by contract.

In time of war, or in preparing an army to take the field, a vast amount of supplies, force and equipment must be constantly on hand, or in easy reach. While the provisioning of a company, battalion or regiment of a command may be perhaps not a difficult task, the supplying of a meal for 100,000 men is a far different matter; and it is absolutely essential that transportation from the base of supplies should be all times uninterrupted and subject to no delays. For this reason the government would assume control of such railroads and vessels as might be necessary, and they would be operated as a part of the army, private business being per-