The Cannon, Child of the Changeless Law of the Universe and the Prince of Peace.

BY M. M. TURNER.

Metal dug from the earth where the forces of nature had placed it, subjected to the liquifying power of heat and molded in sections, is brought to the navy yard at Washington, D. C., to built up into a cannon, piece added to piece; the explosive force and the recoil provided against where the spark is applied, jacket of steel and sleeve of brass, making that end much larger where the missile makes its exit, until the whole huge mass, forty feet long and weighing eleven or more tons, lies prone upon its carriages in the grasp of the mighty power of steam, which, by means of mechanical contrivances, lift and turn it with as much ease as a mother lifts her baby; and by various other mechanisms bore it, clean it internally and externally, rifle it and balance it so that it swings on its pivots as gently as a child breathes. Governing all is the mind of man using the changeless laws of nature as taught by science.

A notice attracts one's eye as the gun shop is entered: "Visitors must not talk to the workmen." The workmen do not talk among themselves; each man knows what gence does it. When united action is required for some particular end, as, for instance, balancing a gun, nothing is said; each man understands what is required and is governed by the hand signals of the man in charge, and communicate with each other in the same way. It is exceedingly interesting to see nine or ten men, healthy and intelligent looking, working silently together for some end they all have clearly in mind. To see the man in charge earnestly watching some points and guiding to the desired result by the movement of the hand, a graceful hand, moved with emphasis, more or less rapidly, the fingers sometimes extended, then one or more folded down, conveying information to the men far above him in the car of the lifting crane, which reaches from one side of the building to the other, near the roof, resting on rails, upon which it moves as gently as a dream. The noise of many whirling wheels and singing belts makes this sign language necessary.

Oil, that science has taught men the churches. how to gather from (or out of) the earth, is freely used, little streams of it, fed from small pipes, trickle over the blades of the cutting ma- the world." chine that shaves off the outer roughness in strips about one-half purifying and organizing work of of an inch wide. The instrument that rifles the bore is bathed in oil,

feet, pushing out before it a stream of oil.

Nine months of work, at full force, is required to make one of these guns. A beautiful structure when completed! Child of the uniform changeless laws of the universe as science, by loving, self-sacrifice, through theological persecution, and through the ages, has revealed them to man.

Passive and peaceful it looks, unconscious of its mission of peace and good will among men. Its power to deliver at great distance, with the energy of a law of the universe, a blow from the god Explosion (perhaps the unknown god of the Greeks) while riding on the deck of a monster battle ship, will teach men that it will not do to crush each other out of existence, as these cannons, and future scientific developments in the same line, will enable them to do. The czar has realized that this horrid work must be stopped, as is proved by his call for universal peace.

The prince of peace has come to extinguish war, to establish brotherhood on earth by giving the world time to learn that "the first principle of natural ethics is the sole and supreme allegiance of conscience to the community."

Isaiah vii, 14, 15: For the Lord himself shall give for a sign. Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call him Imhe has to do, and in silent intelli- manuel. Butter and honey shall he eat that he may know to refuse the evil and choose the good.

"Before the child" has eaten enough butter and honey for this purpose "the land that thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her

This is the theological prince of peace who said (St. Matt. x, 94): Think not I am come to send peace on earth; I came not to send peace, but a sword; St. Luke xiv, 26: If any man come to me and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he can not be my disciple.

The garments of the Christian religion are dyed red with the "blood of the souls of the poor innocents." This religion is now, in the last years of the nineteenth century, as tyrannical as the civilization which science has developed will allow. Those whose daily bread depends upon their daily work, are obliged to keep their reason in fetters; they can not say what they honestly think for fear of "boy-cotting" by

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"It is idle to put bounds to the science."

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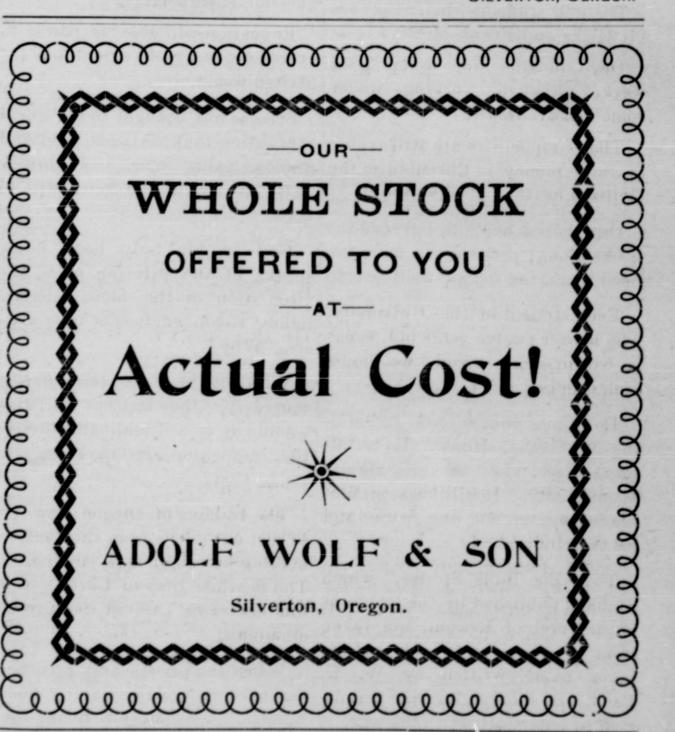
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