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scientific American.

THE BROOKLYN'S LOOP WAS NOT A MARKER FOR THIS.

The effect of the American fire upon

the rigging of the Java was no less re-

an unmanageable wreck, upon the sea.

The British fire damaged the Constitu-

tion's sails very much, but fortunately

none of her spars was cut. The pris-

oners and their personal effects were

removed to the Constitution and the

FINISH 5.29

Java was blown up.

THE much discussed loop of the British frigate. There were 60 killed, and go was a minor matter compared | 101 wounded out of a crew of 400, with the loops and evolutions of war while the Constitution lost but 9 killed ships propelled by sails in the days and 25 wounded-among the latter beprior to steam navigation. The drawing ing Commodore Bainbridge himself, given herewith is copied by the Toledo | who was shot twice during the engage-Blade from the United States Military | ment, but pluckily kept at his post un-Magazine, for November, 1840-a peri- til the victory was won. odical published for a few years in Philadelphia. Mr. George A. Chase, of Toledo, has the bound volume for 1839 and 1840 which he kindly loaned for the purposes of this article.

The diagram is of the action between the United States frigate Constitution, Commodore Bainbridge, and the British frigate Java, Capt. Lambert. This fierce sea fight occurred on Wednesday, December 30, 1812, in the Atlantic, off the coast of Brazil. The wind was from the northeast, and the arrow in the diagram shows its direction as to the vessels. The action began at 2:10 p. m. The position of the two frigates was broadside on, as represented in the lower left-hand corner of the diagram. The course of each ves sel is shown, and their relative positions at the various critical points of the engagement, until the surrender of the Java, at 5 25 p. m., when their positions were as given at the right-hand top of the diagram. Of course, in the various evolutions, the wind was the only motive power.

This being the case, the efforts of the old-time fighters were largely directed to destroying the masts and sails of the enemy s vessel-which, if the effort were successful, put her at the mercy of the other-and to getting into such a position that all of the guns on one side could be trained on the enemy's deck from one end, thus raking it from stem to stern with a hall of missiles, and disabling more men at one broadside than could be done in any other way. The diagram shows that Bainbridge was the better sailor, for he maneuvered the Constitution into such a position with regard to the Java no less than five times during the fight, while the British did not secure that advantage even once over the Yankee

The destructive effect of this raking

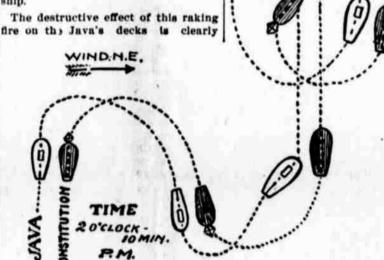


DIAGRAM OF BATTLE OF CONSTITUTION AND JAVA

SHIELD FOR WOUNDS.

Invention Which Will Likewise Protect Boils and Carbuncies.

The purpose of the invention shown in the illustration is to provide a shield for attachment to a surgical splint or to be used in connection with plaster of paris or other form of bandage for the treatment and protection of wounds, and also for the care of boils, carbuncles and the like. In the case of a severe flesh wound it is not desirable to remove the splints at each treatment, and it is the office of this shield to facilitate



PROTECTOR FOR BOILS AND CARBUNCLES

aid it is possible to prevent contact of the sore part with anything liable to injure or bruise it in any manner, and there is no danger of dislocating a small plaster or cloth laid over the wound. The cut shows the device attached to the arm to protect a boil, with straps to bind it on the arm. The protecting cover is thrown back to expose the interior for treatment. A latch s provided to hold the cover in a closed position after treatment. In case of body wounds the straps may be replaced by strips of adhesive plaster. which are laced through the eyelets and fastened to the skin. Edward Shears, of Lakota, N. D., is the in-

SHE TOUCHED A CHINAMAN.

Bad Instead of the Expected Good Luck

coulted from the Encounter. It is a very common superstition that to rub the hump of a cripple's back is sure to bring good luck. In some parts of the country women believe good forstreet, and the women of New Orleans seem to have gone daft on the subject. impression that they do it playfully. but they never neglect an opportunity to touch an oriental as they pass him. Some people are very impressi A young girl at one of the railroad sta-

tions a few evenings ago figured in a rather embarrassing incident on account of her ambition and her effort to touch a Chinaman. The oriental had drifted into the station and was evidently bent on an out-of-town trip, and he was going at a rather rapid rate. probably fearing that he would miss his train. As soon as the girl spied him she jumped up and made a quick dart, evidently for the purpose of crossing the Chinaman's path at a certain point and just brushing him as he passed. Here is probably where she made a mistake. At any rate either the girl or the Chinaman erred. Both were walking rapidly and each seemed to be indifferent to the course of the other. She touched the Chinaman all right, and if the good luck incident to the act of touching is measured by the vigor and force of the touch good fortune ought to shower on her whole family. It was a fierce collision. The girl was embarrassed, and from the capers cut by the Chinaman he evidently thought a freight train had struck him. Yes, indeed, this business of touching a Chinaman is a regular fad now, and if you see a girl rushing wildly and aimless ly down the street, watch her and see if she doesn't brush the clothes of a Mongolian gently in passing.

Too Much for Him.

The other day a young man was pre sented to Senator Hanna who wanted a subordinate place in the army. The Senator saw to it that his application was properly filed. Nothing was heard of the application or the young Irishman for several days, until he sent his card through the doorkeeper of the Senate. Senator Hanna promptly responded, and, with his customary democratic frankness, inquired: "Well, how's everything with you,

Dugan?" "I'm in trouble," said the would-be soldier. "I got through the physical examination all right, but they've downed me on the catechism."-Chicago Tribune.

Suicide in the French Army. The French Militaire publishes statis tics showing that cases of suicide are very frequent in the French army. more so perhaps than in any other European force. Among every 1,000 deaths in the army from all causes, no less than an average of 50 (in 1896 exactly tune may be assured by touching a 50, and in 1897 51) are caused by self-Chinaman while passing him on the destruction; while in every 100,000 men on the rolls of the army no less than an average of 27 commit suicide every Of course they endeavor to create the year. Among the colonial troops the number is even higher.

Some people are very impressive;

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markable. When the British commander struck his flag, his vessel had Herbert A. Hale, not a single spar standing, and floated,

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