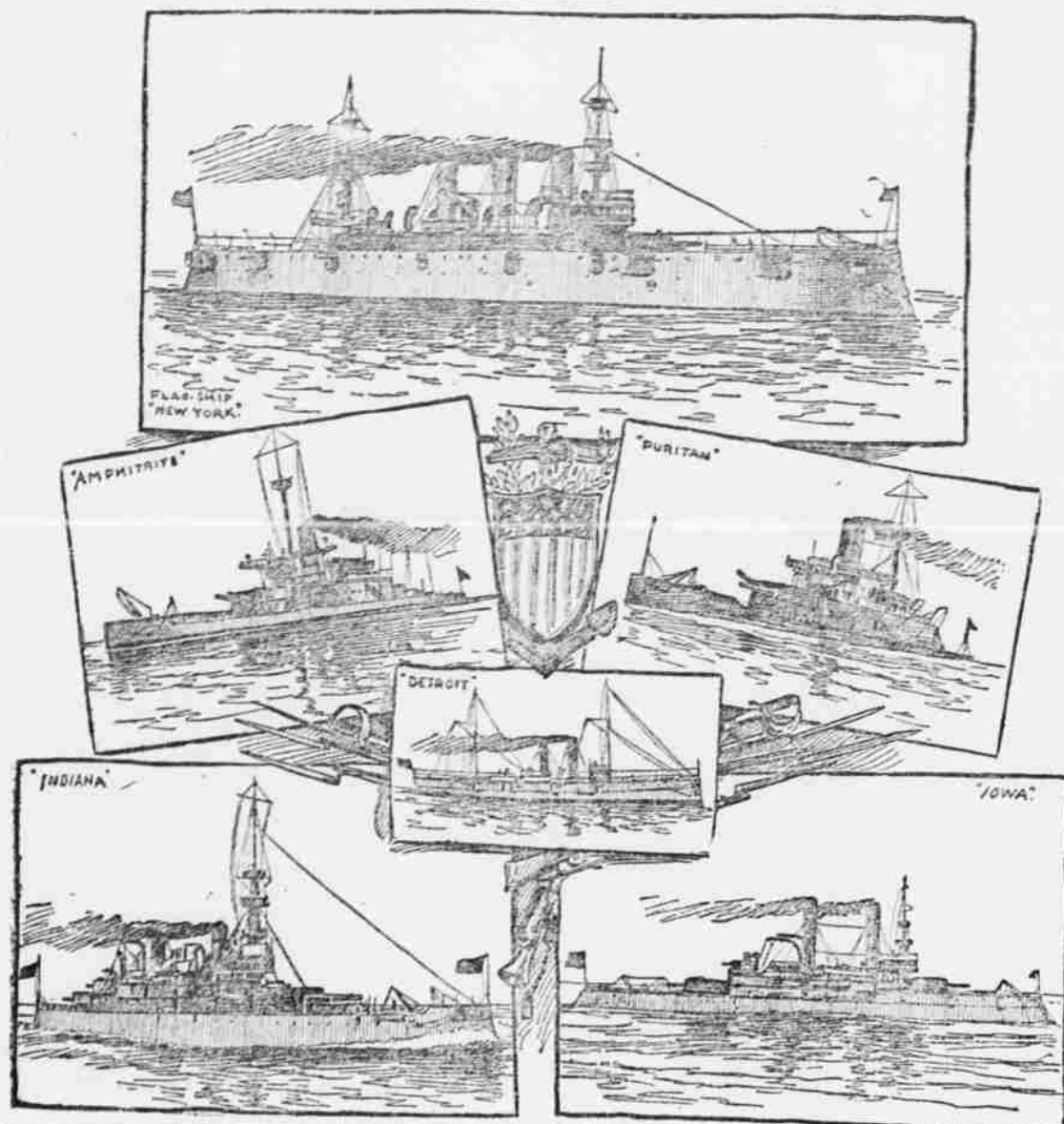


ADMIRAL SAMPSON'S FORMIDABLE FLEET.



A FIGHTING COMMANDER.

Dewey, the Hero of Manila, Has Seen Hard Service.

In his sixty-one years of life Admiral George Dewey, the hero of Manila, has seen a great deal of red hot fighting. He was born among the green hills of Vermont and received his appointment to the Naval Academy at the age of 17. When he graduated in 1858 he went with the steam frigate Wabash on a cruise in Mediterranean waters. When Fort Sumter was fired upon Dewey was promoted from ensign to lieutenant and assigned to the steam sloop Mississippi, which was to take part in the fierce fighting of the West Gulf squadron. The Mississippi was a side wheeler of seventeen guns, and was commanded by Commander Melancthon Smith. The West Gulf squadron went at once to the Mississippi River to force its way up. The "History of Our Navy" thus describes the

ever was in was the one that enabled her. The fleet was trying to run by Fort Hudson with its powerful batteries. None of the squadron got by. The Mississippi ran aground in the fog and smoke and stuck hard and fast. In thirty minutes she was shot full of holes. Her crew climbed into boats on the side opposite the forts, and after setting her on fire, made for the other side of the river under a withering rifle fire. Upon this occasion Lieut. Dewey stuck to his guns until the last and he did not quit ship until all others had left. Admiral Porter singled him out for special praise.

In July, 1863, Dewey was on the gunboats that engaged the Confederates below Donabsonville. In 1864 he was attached to the North Atlantic blockading squadron, assigned to the steam sloop Agawam. The Agawam was one of the great crescent of warships, big and little, that plumped shot into Fort Fisher in December, 1864, and

ber, 1864, he was promoted to be a captain and placed in command of the Dolphin, then brand new, and one of the four vessels to which the name "white squadron" was first given. From 1865 to 1868 he was the commander of the Pensacola, the flagship of the European squadron. In 1868 his energy and ability to complete matters of detail was recognized by making his chief of the bureau of equipment and recruiting, which carried with it the rank of commodore.

In May, 1863, he took another turn on duty as a member of the Lighthouse Board. He was made an actual commodore on Feb. 26, 1869, and was at about that time put at the head of the important Board of Inspection and Survey. He was transferred to the command of the Asiatic squadron Jan. 1, 1868.

THE ORIGIN OF PORCELAIN.

Invented by the Chinese; Perfected by Japanese, Named by Portuguese.

Frank H. Vizetelly, in "A Chat About China" in the Woman's Home Companion, writes interestingly of the introduction of fine porcelain into Europe:

"The word porcelain, as applied to china pottery, originated in Japan during the thirteenth century. The Chinese, the pioneers in the art of porcelain manufacture, began to make it nearly two centuries before the Christian era, and so careful were they to guard the secret of the art that nearly fifteen centuries elapsed before their neighbors, the Japanese, got any inkling of it. But once in their possession, the wily Japanese lost no time to profit by their knowledge. The few intrepid navigators of those days brought samples of both Chinese and Japanese ware to Europe, but not until early in the sixteenth century did a trade in it of any extent take place. Among the early importers were Portuguese traders who had settled on the Japanese coast, and to them, it is claimed, we owe the word porcelain, derived from the Portuguese porcellana, or sucking pig. When the Portuguese traders first saw pieces of Japanese ware they were struck with its translucence, which somewhat resembled that of the cowry shell. The cowry shell, in turn, resembled in shape a small sucking pig, or porcellana; hence our 'porcelain.'"

Transplanting Wild Flowers.

In digging the wild flowers, especially those having bulbous roots, be careful to go deep enough to get all of the roots. Leave as much soil clinging to the roots as possible, and after wrapping them in damp moss or grass, roll the plants up in paper to exclude the air. Gather a basketful of leaf-mold from under the trees where no grass grows, the first inch on the ground being the best, and use this freely in making up the bed for the reception of the wild flowers. After planting them in their new quarters water liberally and shade from the sun for a week or more. A rather shaded location should always be selected.—Woman's Home Companion.

Railway pools may be prohibited by law, but the stock will continue to be watered just the same.

No dress is immodest unless the wearer is.

A FUNNY OLD TOWN.

Some of the Many Amusing Features of Key West.

Key West is one of the oldest and funniest towns in the United States. It is made up of innumerable little wooden houses without chimneys, but crowded in irregular groups. Many of the houses have wooden shutters in place of glass windows. On most of the streets there are no sidewalks, but people stumble over the jagged edges of coral rock. The natives who wear shoes ride in carriages. There are a great number of public vehicles, and one can be hailed at any corner and engaged for 10 cents. Some of these carriages are quite respectable in appearance. They are generally double-seated affairs which have been discarded in the North. The horses are wrecks and they show by their appearance that fodder is dear and that they are not half fed. One of the sounds of Key West is the whacking of the horses which draw the carriages and the mules which move the street cars from place to place. The street cars look as if they had been dug up from the neighborhood of the pyramids. Ropes are used for reins and the only substantial thing about the whole outfit is the great rawhide whip, with which the street car driver labors incessantly. The people, as a rule, are opposed to excessive exertion, but they make an exception in the case of labor with a whip.

The town has one struggling newspaper, which is worthy of a better support. The climate, of which much has been written, is too good to be wasted, and there are traditions against excessive mental effort by either the makers or the readers of newspapers. Hundreds of dogs, cats, roosters, geese and "razorbacks" run at large through the streets, and the three former combine to make the night hideous. In the early evening the sound of negro meetings and jublations predominates. Then the cats begin where the shouters leave

ners and opinions, of the old school. His elaborate courtesy was as elegant, "palavering" antique society kept his head above water in times when other old-school fellows went to the bottom.

It was not many years ago that Monsieur Daunassans was prefect of a department and stationed at an important provincial town. Just at that time a very radical ministry came into power—an ultra-republican government which announced its intention to turn all conservative and "reactionist" functionaries out of office. The Minister of the Interior was a particularly violent radical, with no bowels of compassion for any who were suspected of monarchial opinions.

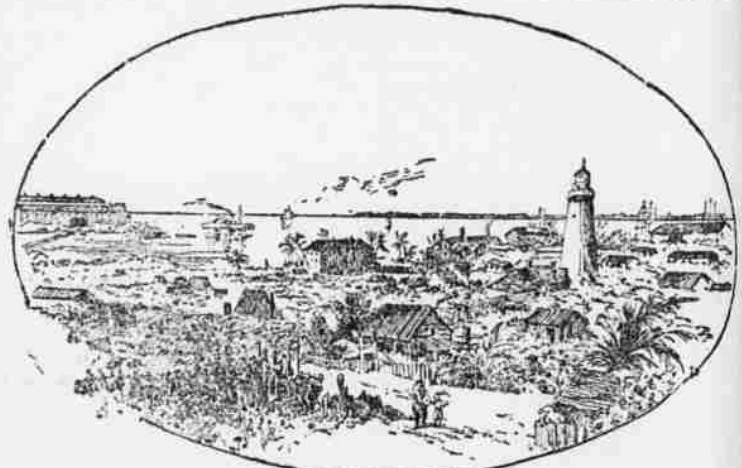
One of the first functionaries selected for sacrifice was Monsieur Daunassans. It happened, however, that his conservative opinions were not as strenuously held as to incline his against holding office under a radical administration. When he was summoned to Paris for dismissal, he went to the cabinet of the minister with his hat in his hand and his most compliant expression on his face.

"You are represented to me, sir," said the minister, "as hostile to our republican institutions."

Monsieur Daunassans bowed very low, in the most graceful style of the ancient gentility.

"I think, monsieur le ministre," he began, "that I may possibly prove myself worthy of your excellency's confidence. If I may be permitted to enter into certain details, it will be, I fancy, within my power to demonstrate to your excellency—"

It was the first time that the new minister had ever been called "your excellency." He was a man who had sprung from the common people, and the phrase, coming from a man who seemed to know how to use it, was very pleasant to his ears. His manner softened perceptibly. Daunassans went on with a long and flattering speech.



KEY WEST, FLORIDA.

off. Later, the dogs, sneaking and sore-eyed, and more numerous than any other species, take up the refrain. There is a strange mixture of races at Key West, but the negroes are the most patriotic class. They alone celebrate Fourth of July and other national holidays. While the town has its enlightened and respectable people, it also has its shoddy class, whose ignorance of the rest of the world carries them to grotesque extremes in their efforts to proclaim their greatness. Even in its schools, Key West is peculiar. The schoolhouses are built like cigar factories, and each has mounted upon the roof the bell of an old locomotive. When the school bells are ringing it is easy to close your eyes and imagine yourself in one of the great railroad depots of the North. The classes are large, the teachers have a constant struggle with the climate, so the scholars have time to make pea-shooters and other instruments of torture for the unsuspecting visitor who falls into their ambush.

If the teachers have a hard time, the clergy have a worse one. The churches are much-abused institutions, with a large patronage and a meagre support. Men that smoke presume that cigars are manufactured in Key West, but there is another source of income of scarcely less importance. Any unfortunate ship that ventures into port is considered legitimate prey, and it is a bold man that dares to protest against the confiscation of his property. When a ship is seen approaching the reefs the greatest excitement prevails, and some people even fall on their knees to petition for her speedy destruction.

If a vessel strikes she is immediately surrounded by a crowd of wreckers, who cling to her like flies to a molasses barrel. After there has been a wreck, storekeepers have money in their pockets and do not care whether you buy of them or not. The proprietor of a shop will stretch himself, yawn and finally saunter over toward his customer to find what is wanted.

FRENCH POLITENESS.

Use of Old-Time Courtesy Brought Pardon for a Frenchman.

In France, at the present day, the great majority of the people are ardent republicans in opinion, but they are also great admirers of the sort of courtesy which is associated with the ancient regime—the old-time gentility.

There lately died in that country a certain Monsieur Daunassans, who was a fine representative, in his man-

in which he had very little to say about his own politics, but in which the words "your excellency" occurred a great many times.

After about three-quarters of an hour he came out of the minister's cabinet. He had been indeed removed from his prefecture, but he had been promoted to a better one! The minister's radical friends were furious. They went to him and said:

"What! You have promoted this man? Why, he is the most abominable of reactionists!"

"Well," answered the minister, as if recalled to himself, "perhaps he's a reactionist, but I tell you he's a mighty well-bred man!"

All of which goes to show—what the French have already found out to their sorrow—that it is hard to make a republic without republicans.—Youth's Companion.

Murders the Oyster.

This is the wicked "borer" that has already murdered thousands of oysters in Long Island waters and threatened as many more. The oyster men call



THE BORER AT WORK.

the borers "drills" and say that they are a lucky pest for them since, with out the destruction they work, the oyster markets would be flooded and the business become unprofitable.

Dat's My L'il' Boy.

Doan keer how he rompin' round—
Fill de house wid joy;
Le' 'm play en have his way;
Dat's my l'il' boy!

Go ter school twell holiday,
Wid his book en toy;
"Beats de lan'!" de teacher say,
Dat's my l'il' boy!

Mammy gittin' of; I spec'
Soon she'll miss de joy
Er his a'ms aroun' her neck;
Good-by, l'il' boy!
—Chicago Times-Herald.

When people listen attentively to a story of a man's wrongs, it indicates that they are wondering what the other side of the story sounds like.



ACTING ADMIRAL DEWEY.

sort of things the men on the Mississippi experienced when they preceded Farragut up past New Orleans:

"The Pensacola and the Mississippi steamed slowly, with their black hulls at regular intervals shooting the air with lurid fire as they replied to the forts. Abreast of St. Philip, where the Confederate fire was hottest, they drew in so close that the gunners aloft and those ashore heartily cursed each other as they worked."

The Mississippi was with the squadron again when it ran down past New Orleans on the way back, fair targets for nineteen big guns at close range.

The hardest fight that the Mississippi

January, 1865, Dewey received his commission as lieutenant commander on March 3, 1865, and served for two years on the European squadron, first on the steamer Kearsarge and then on the frigate Colorado, the flagship. In 1868 he was assigned to duty at the Naval Academy. In 1870 he received his first command, that of the Narragansett, which was employed on special service until 1875.

The Pacific survey of 1872-75 was entrusted to him. After two years as lighthouse inspector and five as secretary of the Lighthouse Board he was put in command of the Junata on the Asiatic squadron in 1882. In September,