

# BIGGEST WAR SHIPS

### THIS YEAR TO WITNESS GREAT ADVANCE IN NAVY.

Seven Great Battleships to Be Completed This Year Including the Virginia, Nebraska, Georgia, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Connecticut and Louisiana, the Two Latter Having Tonnage 16,000, and the Others of 14,948 Tons Each.

Washington, Jan. 9.—This year the United States navy not only makes its greatest gain in ships—it also adds to our fighting strength the most efficient, the fastest, and the best equipped warships ever floated.

Before the year is out seven big battleships, four armored cruisers and two protected cruisers will be added to the United States navy, if the present rate of construction is maintained. This will be the greatest increase in any one year of the history of the American navy, and it will advance materially the rank of the United States as a naval power.

All the new vessels represent the highest type and all that is modern in naval architecture. The battleships to be added within the year are the Virginia, Nebraska, Georgia, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Connecticut and Louisiana. The two last named have a tonnage of 16,000 each, while the other five have a tonnage of 14,948 each.

The four armored cruisers are the California and South Dakota, of 13,580 tons each, and the Tennessee and Washington, of 14,500 each; while the protected cruisers are the St. Louis and Milwaukee, of 9,700 tons each.

For the present at least the Virginia holds the battleship record of 19.01 knots, made during a four-hour run in the open sea. This shows her to be not only the speediest United States battleship of her class afloat, but as fast as any ship of her class in any navy. When the Louisiana the other day easily exceeded her required speed, making 18.924 knots, the performance was hailed as a remarkable achievement, but the Virginia's record was never in serious danger, and is not likely to be exceeded by the Idaho, the last battleship to be launched, whose speed requirement is only 17 knots.

In other respects, however, the Idaho, though smaller, will be a more up-to-date ship than some of her consorts. She is even better equipped than the Mississippi, which was launched in September. Electricity is used aboard the Idaho to a greater extent than ever before attempted on a warship. Her watertight bulkhead doors of the "Long-Arm" system are closed by electricity from the pilot house, thus giving assurance that the ship will be rendered unsinkable in case of emergency at sea. In this respect the latest American warships, over 30 in all, have an immense advantage over any other nation's navy. For the machinery to be operated by electricity, the wires pass through indestructible steel tubes, with separate connections at every gun. The purpose of this equipment is to make it impossible for a foe to disable the machinery, as was the case in the naval battle between Russia and Japan, when the machinery of nearly every Russian ship was shot to pieces, disabling the fighting force, but otherwise leaving the ships unharmed and therefore valuable prizes.

### MINNESOTA BUSINESS LEAGUE. Municipal and Commercial Bodies in Convention.

St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 9.—About 200 delegates from all parts of the state were in attendance when the annual meeting of the Minnesota State Municipal and Commercial league was called to order at the old capitol this morning. The delegates were welcomed by the mayor of St. Paul and Vice-President Leslie Welter responded in behalf of the delegates.

After the various committees had been appointed and some other routine business transacted, the meeting took a recess for luncheon. In the afternoon session President L. A. Rossing will deliver his annual address and the secretary and treasurer will submit their annual reports. Insurance Commissioner T. D. O'Brien will deliver an address on "Life Insurance." Then a number of committee reports will be received and discussed. This evening the delegates will be entertained at a banquet, at which many prominent delegates will deliver addresses. There will be three sessions of the meeting tomorrow and two on Thursday.

### Datrymen and Maple Sugar Men Meet

Burlington, Vt., Jan. 9.—The Vermont Maple Sugar Makers' association is holding its thirteenth annual meeting here today. The meeting was opened last night with an informal conference and reception and today two business meetings were held for the consideration of routine matters, the receiving of reports and to hear a number of interesting papers on various phases of the important industry.

### Walked Across Continent.

Los Angeles, Jan. 9.—Van A. Wilcox arrived in Los Angeles yesterday on the homestretch of his tramp from the Atlantic to the Pacific, having walked 165 days since leaving New York. He finished his transcontinental walk at Santa Monica today. In the course of his tramp across the continent Wilcox has walked 3687 miles or an average of a little more than 22 miles a day.

At St. Louis William C. Dins, president of the Citizens' Investment Co., was sentenced to 15 years in the penitentiary for obtaining money under false pretenses.

### DREW THEIR OWN WILLS.

#### Eminent Legal Lights Who Did So and Blundered.

Many celebrated men have neglected to settle their affairs. Ben Jonson, Dryden and Sir Isaac Newton all died intestate, Bacon insolvent, and the epigram on Butler's monument in Westminster abbey sufficiently explains why he and many others like him never made a will:

The poet's fate is here in emblem shown, He asks for bread, and he receives a stone.

"Wills," said Lord Coke, "and the construction of them do more to perplex a man than any other, and to make a certain construction of them exceedeth jurisprudentium artem." An old proverb says that every man is either a fool or a physician at forty. Sir H. Hallford happening one day to quote the saying to a circle of friends, Caning humorously inquired, "Sir Henry, mayn't he be both?" At any rate, experience teaches that lawyers who draw their own wills sometimes make great mistakes. Sir Samuel Romilly's will was improperly worded, Chief Baron Thompson's will became the subject of chancery proceedings, while the will of Bradley, the eminent conveyancer, was actually set aside by Lord Thurlow.—London Standard.

### FOREIGN ETIQUETTE.

#### Some Things Harmless Here Would Be Bad Form Abroad.

There are some points of foreign etiquette which are absolutely inexplicable to the British mind, and, indeed, it is very doubtful whether the nations to which they are peculiar can themselves offer any explanation. Why, for instance, is it bad form if you visit a Frenchman in his own room to lay your hat on the bed? The fact remains that it is universally considered the worst of manners.

Again, in Germany, if you are walking in the garden with a lady and it occurs to you to pick a flower for her acceptance, be careful to pluck also a leaf or two to make the nosegay complete. Failure to do so is an insult, for which you may possibly be called to account by her nearest male relative.

If you are unexpectedly asked to stay to a meal in an Englishman's house you would not think twice of using his hairbrushes nor be of lending them. But in Hungary such a thing is impossible. To ask for the loan of a hairbrush in a Hungarian house is an unrespectable barbarism, and if it were not known that you erred from sheer ignorance would bring down upon you a most insulting response or possibly a challenge.—London Mail.

### MARINE LEAPERS.

#### The Tuna Is the Most Graceful of the Jumpers of the Sea.

Many of the inhabitants of the sea are good jumpers and some have become famous. Among them should be mentioned the tarpon or silver king, a huge fish with scales that gleam like silver, which constitutes the famous game fish of Florida. The leaps of this beautiful creature are often astonishing. Several years ago a steamer was rushing down the St. Johns river. The captain was sitting on the fore deck, leaning against the pilot house, when suddenly there robed in the air a beautiful shining fish four feet in length. It came on like an arrow and landed in the lap of the captain as neatly as though it had been placed there.

In the Pacific waters the tuna, an ally of the horse mackerel, is noted for its leaps. Sometimes a school sweeps up the coast and the powerful fish, often weighing 800 pounds, are seen in the air in every direction. They are like an arrow, turn gracefully five or six feet in the air and come down, keeping the water for acres in a foam, and if not the greatest jumpers they are certainly the most graceful of the leapers of the sea.

### Monkey With Spectacles.

In the Breslau Zoological garden there is a spider monkey which was operated upon for cataract and now wears glasses. For more than a year after it was received at the zoo it was "very healthy and lively; then it became very quiet, ceased to play and crouched in a corner. It was examined and found to be suffering from cataract, so was immediately taken to the eye hospital and operated upon. In less than a month it was fitted with a pair of spectacles, which it wears with becoming gravity.

### Deadly.

Two ladies got quarreling about their respective ages. At last, to end the dispute, one of them said in a conciliatory tone of voice:

"Don't let us quarrel over the matter any more, dear. I, at least, have not here to do it. I never knew who my mother was, for she deserted me when I was a baby, and who knows but that you may have been that heartless parent?"

### The Strama.

The drama embraces and applies all the beauties and decorations of poetry. The sister arts attend and adorn her; painting, architecture and music are her handmaidens; the costliest lights of a people's intellects burn at her show; all ages welcome her.—Charlotte Cushman.

### Making It Easy.

George (nervous)—I'd like ever so much to marry you, Kitty, but I don't know how to propose. Kitty (promptly and practically)—That's all right, George. You've finished with me; now go to papa.

Some men do as much begrudge others a good name as they want one themselves, and perhaps that is the reason of it.—Penn.

Judge Maurice F. Tuley, the veteran jurist of Chicago, is dead.

### THE MUSSULMAN.

#### His Devotion Is Intense and He Is Proud of His Religion.

A traveler in Africa writes: "This is a land of religion. The Mussulman's devotion is intense, ever present and all pervading, being not an accessory tacked on, as it were, to his life to be practiced more or less surreptitiously, but an essential part, wherewith and wherein he lives at all times. A Mussulman prays openly and publicly, in no wise afraid to be seen. Every man wears his string of beads whereon he records the number of his daily prayers. Notwithstanding its, to us, uninviting appearance, the religion has made and still is making great strides in Africa, and one can only attribute this to the fact that here at last is a religion of which its adherents are in no way ashamed. It offers to the faithful absolute assurance of salvation and engenders that blind, unhesitating faith therein which is so comforting to the native mind.

"Seeing a crowd of pilgrims bound for Mecca patiently—nay, with pleasure—enduring the worst treatment that one could imagine meted out to herds of driven slaves, one envies the excess of faith that can engender such a disposition. Though robbed, slain, starved, herded with pestilence and subjected to countless hardships and annoyances, yet year after year they come from far and near thousands and tens of thousands strong on this the most wonderful and far reaching of latter day pilgrimages.

"At Jeddah one sees pilgrims from all corners of the globe—Dutch subjects from Java, Chinese from Peking, shiploads from India and farther India, Russian subjects from all parts of the great empire, French subjects from Algiers, from Morocco, and dusky negroes who have tramped for months from the western shores of Africa. Through many lands and midst many tongues they come, all to meet at this thronged center of the maelstrom of the Mussulman faith."

### GREEK ATHLETES.

#### The Way They Run and the Style of Track They Used.

"In the foot races of the ancient Greeks," says a writer, "the shape of the stadium caused a great difference, since it was not circular, but long and narrow, with one or both ends semicircular. Consequently the runners had to take a sharp turn at the end of each lap, while except at the turn they were running a straight course. Evidently this turn needed much practice, for the pictures on the old vases show athletes practicing this one part of the race as a kind of drill, taking each movement separately.

"In early times, when all the runners turned round the same post, the turn gave opportunities for foul play, and there are stories of one competitor tripping another at the post or seizing him by the hair to prevent his winning. But later, in the shorter distances at least, each runner had his own track and post to turn round, and probably the separate courses were roped off in much the same way as they are now in sprint races. For the start elaborate arrangements were made and at Olympia the stone slabs are still to be seen, with the grooves at regular intervals that had to be toed at starting.

"Greek long distance men ran in the most approved style of the present day. But the sprinters apparently employed a considerable amount of arm action and took very long steps, rising well on to the toes. Then there was the race in armor, an event highly prized by several of the Greek writers as a valuable preparation for war and which is supposed to explain the famous running charge of the Athenians at Marathon."

### A Literary Coincidence.

"My father, W. Clark Russell," said Herbert Russell in telling of a literary coincidence, "had finished maturing the plot of his novel, 'The Death Ship,' which is a version of the legend of Vanderdecken. I was his amanuensis at the time. He said to me, 'Tomorrow we will begin the story.' On the following morning when I entered his study to take his dictation of the opening lines he showed me a letter he had just received. It was from W. S. Gilbert, the well known dramatist, asking him why he did not write a novel about the Flying Dutchman."

### Funerals In the Highlands.

A Scottish correspondent writes of funerals in the highlands: "There are no undertakers here. A carpenter makes the simple coffin, relatives and friends carry it, hip high, to its last resting place, which is dug when the end of the journey is reached, and, having walked perhaps six miles to the chosen kirkyard, they take a refreshment of sandwiches and whisky and walk home again. The rigorous absence of pomp is maintained, but there is the added embellishment of pipe music."

### Got Near to Them.

An English druggist gives the following list of blunders made by his poorer customers: "Catch an eel" for cochineal; "prosperous paste" for phosphorus paste; "grease it" for creosote; "fishy water" for vichy water; "guitar" for catarrh; "everlasting" for effervescing.

### Force of Habit.

"How many times has your husband been under the knife?" "Dear me, I don't know; but he's become so accustomed to it that he lies down to be operated on every time he sees a doctor."—Chicago Record-Herald.

The Vancouver, Wash., electric plant has been sold for \$200,000 to H. W. Goode, of Portland. Goode represents eastern capitalists. Improvements aggregating \$50,000 in value will be added to the equipment at once.

**"WHITE GHOSTS OF DEATH"**

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## AMONG GREEN RIVER CLIFF DWELLERS

The following interesting article on the cliff dwellers of Green river canyon is from the Four Track News, and was written by Carl H. Padlock.

It gives a highly entertaining account of this strange district in the American desert. Miners of copper are unlocking the gates of the desert. The stretches of blistering sand and the moat-like canyons that have long held back the advance of civilization have been overcome. The ruined forts, villages and canals of the vanished race that once peopled the rock-walled meadows of southern Utah can now be easily reached. After centuries of silence the echoes of the once populous cliffs have been awakened by the whistle of the river steamer.

Tourists are carried to the home of this ancient people by a passenger steamer that made her first trip this summer. The boat plies between River-ton, a railroad town on the Green River, and the little Mormon city of Moab, on the Grand river, a distance of 230 miles, taking the traveler, in the course of the journey, to the head of the grand canyon of the Colorado.

Mystery and beauty are combined in the fascinating interest this region possesses for the tourist. The course of the boat lies at a depth of thousands of feet below the surrounding country, affording an ever-changing panorama of terraced cliffs, tinted by nature in rainbow hues. Chiseled and painted on the great tablets of the precipices are hieroglyphics, for the most part undeciphered.

Two kinds of inscriptions appear: one, made with stone implements and murky colors, is evidently the work of modern Indians; the more ancient records are the work of skilled artisans using metal tools, and pigments that are still vivid.

By giving the name canyon dwellers to the makers of the earlier inscriptions, the burden of racial classification is shifted upon more capable students. The canyon dwellers seem to have made greater progress toward civilization than the allied peoples from whom the modern Pueblos have descended, and, according to tradition, they were totally exterminated by the more barbarous tribes that laid their country waste. Legend says that the last desperate survivors leaped into the river and their spirits entered into the white salmon. To the modern Indian the salmon is known as the spirit fish, and he will not touch it, alive or dead.

A hint of the tragedy is contained in the last of the cliff records made by the canyon dwellers. Usually the final picture represents an Indian with his typical head-dress of feathers, a figure that does not appear in the earlier records. This last picture is often incomplete, an indication that destruction, when it came, was swift.

During their undisturbed possession of the occasional strips of irrigable land along the rivers, the canyon dwellers made progress in the arts and agriculture. Their canals, sometimes dug from solid rock, show an empirical knowledge of engineering principles. A map of Green river chiseled on a cliff is remarkably accurate. Their architecture has a certain rude grandeur, indicating that they were not insensible to the sublimity of their surroundings. In the lines of their fields and artificial ponds is revealed a taste for formal gardening.

Still growing wild along the river is a plant from the fiber of which they made a coarse cloth. For food they probably depended largely upon maize, and the size of their granaries indicates a communal polity. For fruit they had something resembling a peach. This now grows wild in the region, and has a delicious flavor.

That a belief of immortality was very real to the canyon dwellers is evident from the care they took in the disposition of their dead. For protection from insects the bodies were wrapped in matting woven from the inner bark of the cedar.

The dryness of the atmosphere completed the work of mummification. The burial places were crevices and chambers in the rock; after the bodies had been placed within them in a sitting posture, these were tightly sealed with cement. The lines of the workmen's hands are still distinct

in the cement work. Cement was used extensively in the construction of granaries, cisterns, forts and dwelling places.

Evidences of a dense population supported on the comparatively small cultivated areas are conclusive. On the face of an immense black rock, standing in an isolated position far back from the river, are the imprints of the right hand and right foot of at least 20,000 people of all ages, even the youngest children being represented.

The most plausible explanation seems to be that the rock was used for a kind of census registration, possibly in connection with some religious ceremony. In making the imprints a white paint or cement was used, and the lines of the hands and feet are still distinct. The use of sandals is shown by the imprints of the feet, the great toe always standing out from the others.

The souls long ago departed from the bodies of the sandal wearers, and from the silent mummies in the tombs comes no response in answer to the questions of the curious traveler. The patient labors of the archaeologist, however, may be expected to reveal the story locked in the ancient records, and in the meantime a new civilization is springing up on the site of the old.

The superstitious might feel justified in the belief that the region laid waste has been guarded by revengeful spirits. Many of the attempts to explore and occupy the country have been ill-starred. It was soon abandoned after its conquest by warring hordes, for only a people skilled in agriculture and irrigation could wrest a living from the reluctant soil, and the land of the canyon dwellers soon lapsed into the desert state from which it has not since been reclaimed.

Undoubtedly, the narrow meadows along the river will be occupied when they are made accessible by reliable passenger and freight steamers, but the boats that have been tried have most of them been partial failures. Obstacles encountered in the Green river have made it necessary to remodel the "City of Moab," the latest of the river steamers, but now the owners expect to handle the traffic to the entire satisfaction of everyone concerned. The "Wilmont," a little steamer in the service of a mining company, makes frequent trips with supplies, and has proved that the navigation of the Green is feasible. This steamer and others like it will follow the railroad in barges or used by the present canyon dwellers to make their hardened copper tools.

### READY FOR PACKERS' TRIAL.

#### Present Suit Is a Provisional Effort Merely.

Chicago, Jan. 9.—The trial against the beef packers indicted for conspiracy to violate the anti-trust laws, opened today in the United States district court. There are in all 21 persons and corporations under indictment and the hearing is held to decide the 10 special pleas for immunity, raised by the defendants.

The verdict of the jury will only decide whether the packers are to be tried later on the main charges in the case or go free altogether, because under the law they are entitled to immunity from prosecution if, as they assert, they furnished evidence against themselves during the Garfield investigation, and which evidence it is declared by the defendants, was used against them to bring the indictments.

The selection of the jury consumed considerable time. In all there were 200 veniremen summoned. Eleven of the 82 were peremptorily challenged by the government and eight by the packers.

The jury consists of Joseph G. Walker, carpenter and farmer, Mendota; George Ruperight, carpenter, Mt. Carroll; P. K. Cross, real estate dealer, Morris; George W. Mundie, real estate dealer, Earlville; R. B. Graham, retired farmer, Sycamore; John W. Miller, stockraiser, Savanna; M. J. Helm, proprietor of a furniture storage house, Chicago; Walter H. Loomis, real estate dealer, Syracuse; Robert C. Smith, printer, Rockford; Gerald Pearce, farmer, Yorkville; Henry Winsor, farmer, Waupaque; John S. Lee,

dairy farmer, Elgin. The case will be tried before Judge J. Otis Humphrey.

### Factory Will Employ 25 Men.

Walla Walla, Jan. 9.—It is the intention of J. M. Fiedler, if local capital can be interested, to incorporate and form a stock company to manufacture on a large scale his brands of cigars. The intention is to increase the floor space at the factory which is at present located two miles south of the city, and also to increase the working force and give employment to at least 25 men. All are to be experts in their line. This will be but one of the many payrolls to be started here this year. These 25 cigar makers will receive in wages at least \$30,000 a year, which will be diverted in local channels of trade.

### A Modern Miracle.

"Truly miraculous seemed the recovery of Mrs. Mollie Holt of this place," writes J. O. R. Hooper, Woodford, Tenn., "she was so wasted by coughing up puss from her lungs. Doctors declared her end so near that her family had watched by her bedside 48 hours; when, at my urgent request Dr. King's New Discovery was given her, with the astonishing result that improvement began, and continued until she finally completely recovered, and is a healthy woman today." Guaranteed cure for coughs and colds. 50c and \$1.00 at Tallman & Co. and Brock & McComas', druggists. Trial bottle free.

At the election of December 5, Farmington, Wash., went "dry" by a decisive majority. The new administration went in January 3. The officials are as follows: J. F. Grimm, mayor; Asa Bowman, S. L. Steward and P. Farrington, councilmen. Two of the old councilmen, Beste and MacLeod, remain. John B. Hayden was elected marshal and W. E. Walker, clerk.

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