

SOME SAILORS SWIM.

And Others Do Not, Yet Manage to Live Along.

Swimming in the Choke Infested Waters of the Tropics—Always Never Grown of Drowning—Life Preservers.

The percentage of blue jackets in the navy who are unable to swim is sufficiently large to warrant some surprise on the part of an inquirer. Apprehensive of the naval service with no knowledge of how to keep afloat in the water than they have of starboard, maintopgallant, studding sail boom, trailing line, blockship, thimble, seizings. In time, of course, the young sailor is bound to make the acquaintance of the water, but he may become gray and salty, and perhaps rise to be boat's mate, and never learn to swim.

In also cases out of ten, says the New York Sun, the lack of accomplishment is due to Jack's not taking advantage of the opportunities offered him, because he has many chances to learn if he only would. When ships are riding at anchor in warm waters permission to swim is often given to those who wish it, and there are enough swimmers in the ship's company to give instructions to the others. To counter-balance the ones who do not swim there are many expert swimmers in the navy. From the work he has to do, Jack, after a year's service, is likely to be a splendidly trained fellow. His muscles are developed to the highest, and his feet and hands are such as to keep him in the best of physical trim. So, when Jack is a swimmer, the conditions combine to make him as sure a strong and graceful creature in the water. He knows his abilities, and this leads him into what the sedate landlubber might consider foolhardiness. When the ship lies in temperate waters, and swimming permission has been given, the ship's port lower boom is let down into the water. This boom lies against the ship's side when she is under way, but when at anchor is used as the mooring place for such small boats and launches as may be in service at the time. A life line runs from the ship to the topping lift, which supports the boom. The lowering of the boom into the water gives Jack a convenient but slightly hazardous way of getting down. But the sailor swimmer generally prefers to use the boom as a means of getting back to the ship after a dive from the rail or some other vantage point. A dive from the rail means a descent of eighteen feet in the case of a frigate, and more in the modern cruiser. This height is not so great as to daunt Jack's courage, and many sailormen have plunged headforemost in the sea from the tip of the flying jibboom, which is upward of thirty-five feet from the water.

In swimming in tropical waters there is one drawback to the sport—sharks. The sight of a triangular black fin knitting its way through the water, and the sudden churning of the water by the flick of a tail, is chilling enough when seen from the safe deck of a ship, but is no doubt marrow freezing when viewed from the green level of the sea. If Jack went swimming unprotected in such regions there would likely be an unanswered name at roll call some morning. But Jack has his swimming pond in the tropics—or had in the days of the great hulled frigate—just as he does further north. This is accomplished by tying up the four corners of a topsail, thus forming a bag, and sinking it over the ship's side. When it has filled the four corners are lifted several feet out of the water, and Jack has an admirable intorium, secure from sharks and large and deep enough to admit of any amount of diving and swimming.

The fact that a bluejacket cannot swim has no more effect upon him in the discharge of perilous duty than if he were a nerman. He jumps into a boat on a lifesaving errand when the sea is mountain high, and he knows he may never tread a deck again if an angry wave throws the boat upon her beam ends and tumbles all hands out. He goes aloft and lays out to the end of a yard when the ship is tossing about like a cork, and there is nothing below him but an endless stretch of roaring waves. The yard quivers and groans, and Jack has to hold on like grim death, for one moment's loosening of his grasp and he is snapped off into space. This means nothing short of drowning, and yet that thought never seems to occur to him. His life goes on, and perhaps the emergency of his having to make some effort to swim may never arise.

Each ship of the navy is fitted with two life buoys on the starboard and port rails aft. These are constructed of a frame holding two large air-tight copper vessels. The apparatus floats upright, and there is a plate on which the man overboard may find a footing. The buoy readily sustains a man's weight, and holds him comparatively high out of the water if he stands on the footrest below. When a man has tumbled overboard at night, and one or both of the life buoys have been ordered over, the sailor at the rail pulls one of two knobs over the buoy. This fires a cap, which ignites a long tube of red fire inserted in the main upright of the buoy. The other knob, when pulled, releases the buoy, and it drops into the water. The red fire burns a long time and guides the luckless bluejacket. Many a sailorman who could not swim has been saved by the celerity with which the life buoys have been dropped.

Time to Eat Them.
A brace of phantasms were once forwarded by a theatrical manager to one of London's best-known and ablest play writers. He did not know what to do with them; it seemed a foolish fuss to send them back, and yet—So he told his editor what had happened, and asked his advice. "How long have you had them?" asked the editor. "Eight days," he answered. "Then eat them up, quickly, or they'll be worse than a brace of phantasms."

Old papers for sale here at five cents per dozen.

You can get 8 loaves of bread at Mayer & Kimbrough for 25 cts.

All knowing themselves indebted to me will please call and settle at once.
M. A. MILLER.

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Notice for Publication
UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE,
OREGON, CITY, OREGON,
June 1, 1896.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the states of California, Oregon, Nevada and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1892, Augusta Heiness, of Oregon City, county of Clackamas, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office her sworn statement No. 2867, for the purchase of the $\frac{1}{2}$ of n w $\frac{1}{4}$, n e $\frac{1}{4}$ of s w $\frac{1}{4}$ and s w $\frac{1}{4}$ of n e $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section No. 22 in township No. 10 south, range No. 5 east, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish her claim to said land before the register and receiver of this office at Oregon City, Oregon, on Monday, the 25th day of August, 1896.

Shenames as witnesses: J. L. Berry of Berry, Oregon, Wm T Whitlock of Berry, Oregon, Robert Correll of Berry, Oregon, George Mayburn of Berry, Oregon. Any and all persons claiming adversely the above-described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 25th day of August, 1896.
ROBERT A. MILLER,
Register.

Administratrix's Notice.
Notice is hereby given, that by order of the county court of Linn county, Oregon, the undersigned has been duly appointed and is now the duly qualified acting administratrix of the estate of W. A. Bishop, of said county, deceased. All parties having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same, duly verified, to the undersigned, within six months from the 12th day of July, 1896, the first publication of this notice, at the office of Sam'l M. Garland, Lebanon, Oregon.

HANNAH B. BISHOP,
SAM'L M. GARLAND, Administratrix
Atty. for Admr's. of the Estate of
W. A. Bishop, deceased.

Notice of Administration.
Notice is hereby given, that by order of the county court of Linn county, Oregon, the undersigned has been duly appointed and is now the duly qualified and acting administrator of the estate of Nancy Marks, deceased. All parties having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same, properly verified, within six months from the 12th day of July, 1896, the date of the first publication hereof, to the undersigned at the office of Sam'l M. Garland, Lebanon, Oregon.

JOHN B. MARKS,
SAM'L M. GARLAND, Administrator.
Atty. for Admr. Estate of
Nancy Marks, deceased.

Notice of Executrix.
Notice is hereby given to all whom it may concern, that, by an order of the County Court for Linn County, State of Oregon, the undersigned has been duly appointed and is now the duly qualified and acting Executrix of the last will and testament of Eugene H. Ulm, deceased. All parties indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and all parties having claims against the estate are hereby required to present the same properly verified, within six months from the 5th day of April, 1896, the first publication of this notice, to the undersigned at the office of Sam'l M. Garland, Lebanon, Ore.

E. J. ULM,
Ex. of the last will and testament of
Eugene H. Ulm, deceased.
SAM'L M. GARLAND,
Atty. for Executrix.

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