

SHIPS FOR RUSSIA.

Cramps to Build a Battleship and Cruiser for the Czar.

Will Be Far Superior in Every Way to Anything Yet Designed for the American Navy.

Charles Cramp, the head of Cramp's shipyard in Philadelphia, is in Washington to consult the naval authorities regarding the bids which are to be opened for the three 16-knot battleships. Mr. Cramp has recently returned from Russia, where he secured contracts to build a battleship and a cruiser for that government, which are to be far superior to anything yet designed for the American navy. Speaking of these ships he said: "We shall begin to lay their keels some time next week. The battleship will be of 12,700 tons displacement, and must maintain a speed of 18 knots for 12 consecutive hours, with all coal, ammunition and stores aboard, and these stores, coal and ammunition are 50 per cent greater than those carried on any ships outside of Russia. This speed, under these extraordinary conditions, must be made with ordinary natural draught. The cruiser is to be of 6,500 tons, and under natural draught must maintain 22 knots for 12 consecutive hours and carry 780 tons of coal and 50 per cent more stores of all kinds than has hitherto been put into any warship."

A continuous test for 12 hours is something wholly new for warships, the practice in Europe generally being to rate vessels by the speed they attain in a spurt over single measured miles.

Mr. Camp, while at the navy department, told officials that he considered it a great mistake to build slow ships when the other nations were building them faster and faster. He intends to submit a bid for the battleships designed by the department to duplicate the Alabama, but it is more than likely that he will offer practically to duplicate the Russian battleship for the United States.

TO BE MADE PERMANENT.

Acting Commissioners in Different Branches of the Service Will in Many Cases Be Retained.

During the war about 375 line officers, 50 medical officers, 39 pay officers and 175 engineer officers have been appointed to acting commissions. It is found that the navy will require the services of some of these officers in the permanent establishment. This is especially so in the engineer corps, and Engineer in Chief Melville has recommended that a number of the 62 passed assistant engineers and 97 assistant engineers be retained in the navy.

All of the appointees to this corps are either graduates of technical schools or have had practical experience in engineering work. They have all proved themselves abundantly qualified for their duties and can be retained in the service by act of congress without recourse to further examination. It has been feared in some quarters that these officers, many of whom are desirous of remaining in the service, would interfere with the departmental plans for amalgamating the line and engineer corps.

NEW PENSIONS.

Number of Claims May Reach 50,000—May Cost the Government \$12,000,000 Per Annum.

When Commissioner of Pensions Evans was seen in regard to claims for pensions growing out of the present war it was learned that only 144 applications have been filed. It is estimated that there will be 50,000 applications filed as the outgrowth of wounds inflicted and disease contracted during the war. At an average of \$20 per month, the estimated cost of pensions will be \$12,000,000 per annum, but the commissioner says it is difficult to make anything like an accurate estimate. Claims now on file represent all parts of the union, and as the claims are not filed by states it is impossible to tell which sections of the country are represented. Forty-eight per cent of the claims now on file are for invalid pensions and 52 per cent are made by widows and minors, who lost their husbands and fathers in the fight for Cuban freedom.

THE ALMIRANTE OQUENDO.

The Wreck of the Spanish Ship at Santander Proves She Was Poorly Constructed.

As a matter of fact the Almirante Oquendo and the Infanta Maria Teresa seem to have been poorly constructed. If they have a belt of Harveyized steel 12 inches thick, as naval registers declare, it is not easily discovered; but there are shot holes, some made by two-inch guns, all over their sides. Probably the officers of government who were overseers of the construction of these ships did not fancy giving Spain good cruisers so much as they fancied putting money in their purse.

BELS IN BOSTON WATER PIPES.

The water board of Boston is at a loss to know how to get rid of the thousands of wriggling eels which infest the city's water pipes. The eels pass through the intake strainers when young and small and grow to great size obstructing the flow of water in small street mains and sometimes stopping it altogether in the house service pipes.

London to Japan in Thirteen Days.

When the trans-Siberian railroad is completed it will be easy for a person to go from London to Japan in 13 days.

CLAIMS SUTRO AS HUSBAND.

Mrs. Clara Kluge, of San Francisco, Will Ask for a Share in the Big Estate.

Mrs. Clara Kluge, the alleged widow of Adolph Sutro, proposes to make a fight for a share of the millionaire's great estate. She has announced her determination and in the course of an interview made a detailed statement of her relations with Sutro, and incidentally shed some light on another will, which she claims the millionaire told her he made. She said:

"I was first introduced into the Sutro family 11 or 12 years ago as seamstress and lived with the family at the heights for four months in that capacity. My relations with Mr. Sutro during these years have been well known to them. I was for years in the habit of visiting the house on the heights with my children every week."

"The members of his family know as well as I know, and many other people know, that a greater part of the time they found a number of pretty tents already in position and corps of men busily at work about the beach preparing an entertainment for the guests. The small tents were used for dressing, and a few minutes later the members of the party emerged in their up-to-date society bathing suits. After gamboling about in the water for awhile and enjoying races in canoes and surf riding, the party took to the beach where the young gentlemen and young ladies indulged in games of handball, baseball, foot races, and hurdle races, all the while in their bathing suits.

"It is very surprising to me that no later will than that published as his last will can be found. I know from conversations with him that he left a will of later date. He frequently told me he had given his library to the city, but he also told me he had given the Sutro heights property to the city. I know it was one of his fondest plans, for he wanted to earn the credit of having given these properties to the city. He thought it would be a great monument to his memory."

PROTECTING THE PARKS.

Work of Clearing the National Reservations in California of Sheep Herds Has Been Finished.

The secretary of the interior has received a report from Acting Superintendent Zevely, stationed in California to protect the national parks from trespassing sheep herds. Dr. Zevely has finished his portion of the work and troop A, Utah cavalry, has been detailed to patrol the parks. He says that 120,000 sheep have been ejected, 55 bands in all, from Yosemite park, and it is thought that the work has been as successful in the General Grant and Sequoia parks. The herds had been so long in Yosemite park that nearly all the grass and other forage had been destroyed.

Some confusion exists in California in regard to the action and intention of the interior department, and it is desired that it be distinctly understood that no animals under any circumstances, will be permitted to graze upon the public reservations, and that all measures necessary will be taken to keep the parks free from them.

NOW ASPIRES TO STAGE.

Mrs. Van Schaack, Who Sued Her Father-in-Law for \$60,000, to Appear Before the Footlights.

Mrs. Fione Lillian Palmer Van Schaack, who sued Peter Van Schaack, of Chicago, for \$60,000 damages for alienating the affections of her husband, son is in New York city again. Mrs. Van Schaack has historical aspirations, and Mr. Charles Leonard Fletcher, the all-around godfather of footlight fledglings, has made Mrs. Van Schaack leading lady in his coming "Jekyll and Hyde" tour through the provinces."

Mrs. Van Schaack's marital troubles have been more or less before the public for some time. In the future Mrs. Van Schaack will stand or fall by her historic abilities. She has had wide experience in the art of captivating hearts, and will doubtless be a drawing card. Mr. Fletcher expects to land his leading lady on the pinnacle of success before the season closes.

LIGHTNING STRIKES A TRAIN.

Bolt Goes Crashing Through a Car, But No Passengers Are Injured.

Officials of the Canadian Pacific road say that never in their experience have they heard of such a peculiar accident that which happened to one of their trains bound for the coast. A thunder storm sprang up as the train was plunging through a mountain pass at the rate of 40 miles an hour, when a bolt of lightning seemed to follow it for a hundred yards until it reached the entrance to the tunnel. The bolt then struck the side of the tunnel and glanced off, entering a window of one of the cars and striking the metal side of a vacant seat bored a hole through the floor of the car to the track, where it exploded with a noise like the rattle of a hundred rifles. None of the passengers in the coach were injured.

Electricity for a Diving Bell.

The water board of Boston is at a loss to know how to get rid of the thousands of wriggling eels which infest the city's water pipes. The eels pass through the intake strainers when young and small and grow to great size obstructing the flow of water in small street mains and sometimes stopping it altogether in the house service pipes.

In an improved diving bell of great capacity, moving along the sea bottom by means of screws propelled by electricity, is on exhibition in Paris. It can be worked at very great depths and holds air enough to support the crew for 48 hours without renewal. It is lighted by electricity, which also furnishes motive power for any tools that may be used.

Elephants.

In India elephants over 12 and up to 45 years of age are deemed the best to purchase, and will generally work well until they are 80 years old.

GAY YOUNG BATHERS.

Climax of a Season of Fads at Newport Is Reached.

GUESTS OF POTTER PALMER, JR., BACHE, BANQUET AND GAMBLIN IN THEIR PICTURESQUE AND ABREVIATED COSTUMES.

This has been a season of fads and novelty, and all society has been racing its brain in the attempt to originate new and startling ideas. Up to the present time Potter Palmer, Jr., by long odds heads the list. On Tuesday he created a sensation among the summer residents by the novelty and startling boldness of his entertainment. He invited 20 of his young friends of both sexes to Hazard beach on that day, but the nature of the entertainment was not disclosed.

The affair, presumably, was to have been simply a bathing party, but when the guests reached the appointed place they found a number of pretty tents already in position and corps of men busily at work about the beach preparing an entertainment for the guests. The small tents were used for dressing, and a few minutes later the members of the party emerged in their up-to-date society bathing suits. After gamboling about in the water for awhile and enjoying races in canoes and surf riding, the party took to the beach where the young gentlemen and young ladies indulged in games of handball, baseball, foot races, and hurdle races, all the while in their bathing suits.

The climax was reached when dinner was announced, and the young people, still in their dripping bathing costumes, marched into a large tent, where a shore dinner was served by a corps of grinning waiters.

The affair has created quite a sensation, and it is safe to predict that chaperons will accompany the ladies of the party hereafter when they take their morning dip.

At night Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish gave a dinner at "Crossways." The principal attractions were the Glover Mandolin club of colored performers, who gave a minstrel entertainment, and a troupe of acrobats, in regulation attire, who performed their feats in the parlor of the Fish villa.

GOLD OUTPUT.

That of the Klondike Region Has Amounted to Only \$5,000,000 This Year.

F. A. Leach, superintendent of the United States mint in San Francisco, estimates that the gold output of the Klondike this year has been only about \$5,000,000. The receipts at the mint there have amounted to about \$1,750,000 since the first arrival of Yukon gold a few weeks ago. The receipts of the Seattle assay office have been about the same. The largest single deposit at the mint in San Francisco was \$120,000. Mr. Leach estimates that about \$250,000 in dust and nuggets has gone east and that there is about \$1,000,000 more of this season's output yet to reach this country. It is stated that the dust brought out by the North American Trading and Transportation company was sent east and was not included in Mr. Leach's figures. This amount might possibly reach \$500,000. From this showing it would appear that \$6,000,000 would be a safe and conservative estimate of the entire Yukon output, including the American side as well as the Klondike.

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TO REVISIT AMERICA.

Author of "Qno Vadis" Coming with His Sixteen-Year-Old Daughter, Adwiga.

The magnet of his own popularity in this country is drawing Henry Sienkiewicz to revisit America, which years ago, in letters to St. Petersburg, he described as a most disagreeable land. The author of "Qno Vadis" and of "With Fire and Sword" has written to his old friend, Dr. Marion de Zemba, in New York city, saying that if his plans go well he will carry out his "long cherished project" of coming to the "ever glorious and most glorious United States."

He proposes to come here in the latter part of next month, bringing with him his inseparable companion, Adwiga, his daughter, a maid of 16. The two at this time are spending the summer in the village of Zakopane, a resort in the Tatra mountains of Galicia.

NEW MAP OF ALASKA.

Prepared by the Topographical Division of the General Land Office—Is Very Fine.

The new map of Alaska, prepared by Prof. Harry E. King, of the Topographical division of the general land office, under the direction of Commissioner Hermann, is an exceedingly useful and valuable publication, and would have attracted a large share of public attention if it had not been issued in war time, when even the mineral treasures of the Yukon basin and the Klondike region are regarded as of comparatively slight interest and importance.

In the preparation of the map great care and excellent judgment have been exhibited and the result is a work of high and permanent value.

Attendance at Paris Exhibitions.

At the Paris exposition in 1878 there were 110 exhibitors; at the second, in 1881, there were 220; at the fourth, in 1886, there were 1,422 and at the eighth, in the reign of Louis Philippe, there were 2,247. The first world's fair in Paris was in 1863. At the exposition of 1867 there were 55,486 exhibitors and 32,500,000 visitors.

Elephants.

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Bulletin Financier.

Jeudi, 13 octobre 1898.

COMPTOIR D'ÉCHANGES (CLEARING HOUSE) DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS.

Jusqu'à cette date \$6,304,471.00 \$603,528.00

meilleure saison.....

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