

# Monarch of The Seas

Retvizan, Greatest of Battleships, Just Completed

When the Russian unfurls the blue cross of St. Andrew on its field of milky white over the taffrail of the Retvizan, a few weeks hence, he will possess the greatest battleship, in many respects, of which any navy can now boast. To find out if all this is so, the Cramps, who created the vessel, are ready to take her to sea for a preliminary trial, which promises to be of world-wide interest.

This ship, more than any other that is even approaching completion, embodies every development of the monster man-of-war which had for its first model Ericsson's tiny monitor; and the czar's officers, who have watched her grow from the simple center keel plate smile now and are impatient to exhibit their prize to naval Europe.

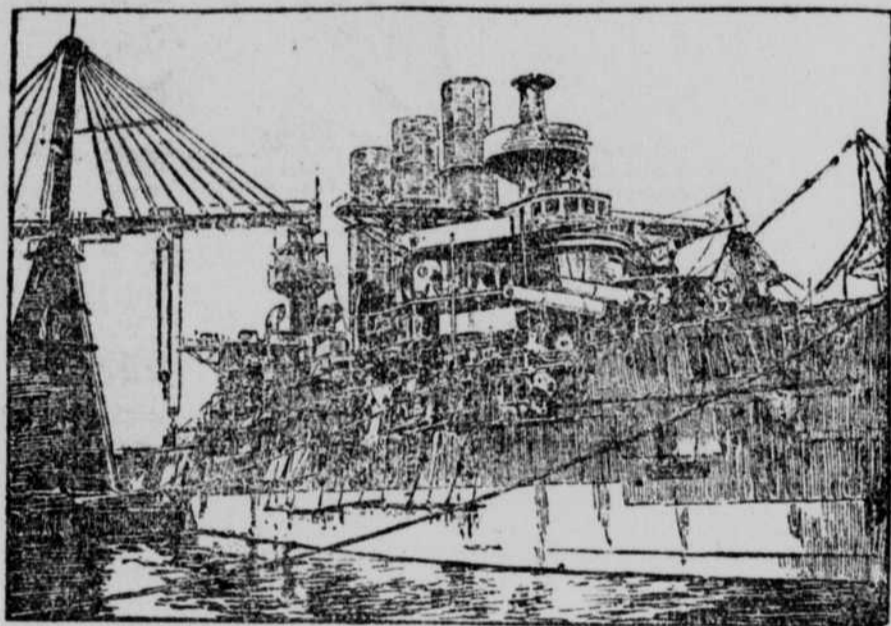
A battleship of nearly 13,000 tons, that can run as swiftly as an ordinary accommodation train on a first-class railroad; that will house nearly 800 men, and which, at a distance of ten or a dozen miles, can hurl 3,400 pounds of chilled steel and high explosive against an enemy from the four great guns that peer out of turrets of steel, which resemble in shape nothing so much as the skull of an

considered that the United States government proving course off the New England coast is only fifty knots long and that Uncle Sam's ships steam it over twice to prove their merit the difficulty of having deep-sea room enough to run a vessel twelve hours on a stretch and all the time at eight-teen knots an hour must be evident.

### Builders' Test Is Interesting.

But there is a way to overcome this difficulty. The modern battleship is nothing if not a piece of machinery, and machinery well geared, like figures correctly totaled, never lie. So they will run the Retvizan over the measured course, and knowing the exact distance from mark to mark, will keep a record of the revolutions of the big twin screws until the time comes when a carefully measured space is covered exactly at the required speed.

Then the time will be ripe for the main test, and for twelve hours the ship will be forced onward over a course laid anywhere in the sea that gives the required area of deep water, and throughout the revolutions of the propellers must average at least up to the turns that were found necessary to make the contract speed.



NEW RUSSIAN BATTLESHIP RETVIZAN, LOOKING AFT.

orang-outang—elliptical balanced turrets, the plans call them—that is the Retvizan.

Warship builders the world over knew that the czar wanted ships a few years ago, and all figured on how best to please the imperial marine ministry. But the czar not only wanted vessels—he wanted them of a type vastly improved and, moreover, he wanted them quick. Then it was that Charles R. Cramp figured out the possibilities, first of the Variag, now the crack protected cruiser of the Russian navy, and second of the Retvizan.

### A Hard Problem.

It was the latter which needed the most figuring. To build a ship of the speed required, displacing approximately 13,000 tons—12,775 to be exact—and float it in less than twenty-six feet of water, was the proposition, and its answer is the huge craft now about to seek the sea to try herself. The hull, which carries the typical sweeping American lines that mean grace and speed, is 384 feet long between perpendiculars, and seventy-two feet two and one-half inches wide, and as she lies now there are nine inches of Krupp armor spread over the massive sides for two-thirds the entire length. Above this belt there is six inches to the deck line; the gun positions, in casemates above, have five inches of plating. Back of the armor is the curved protective deck, which covers the vitals of the ship. To keep out any stray raking shot that might go through and disable a gun or two, heavy armored bulkheads are worked in at the ends of the main and casemate belts.

This is the first battleship built in this country with a complete installation of water-tube boilers. This was one of the novel features involved in the Cramp plan and all the machinery is particularly adapted to this type of boiler. They will make the steam that will give the two ponderous triple-expansion engines the power to whirl the shafts with the strength of 16,000 horses. Then the twin 25,000 pound propellers will be called upon to push the ship ahead at the rate of eighteen knots an hour, though it would be hard to find a man at Cramps' who does not believe that the indicated horse power developed will be much in excess of the requirements and that the speed will be nearer nineteen than eighteen knots.

### Russians Require Severe Tests.

When the Russians accept a ship there is no chance of their getting anything but what they order. A United States government trial, severe as it is, when the vessel is forced at top speed over the deep course between Cap Ann and Cap Porpoise for four hours, would never satisfy the czar's men. They have a set of tests of their own devising that, if practiced on all the ships of foreign navies, would likely result in half of them being declared failures.

First they wanted no assisted or forced draught used; next they insist that the vessel shall maintain the contract speed for twelve consecutive hours, and incidentally they stand about to watch the indicator cards and see that it is done. When it is

The coming first trial of the big battleship is called a preliminary, or builders' test, but it is much more interesting, and far more important than the final acceptance trial of twelve hours, for it really shows the qualities of the ship for the first time, and in addition, every gun will be tested, a feature totally eliminated from United States warship trials. Their guns keep silence until long after the vessel is in commission, then the firing trial is ordered.

### Has a Terrific Battery.

The Retvizan carries a terrific battery and the big guns are novel to American eyes, for the Russians manufacture all their own heavy ordnance at the Obukoff works. They are really a modification of the famous French Canet type and have practically the same style of breech block and, like all such weapons, are fired by electricity and loaded by machinery, except for the pushing of the shell into the yawning breech.

There are four twelve-inch, twelve six-inch and twenty three-inch guns in the main battery, while the secondary group is made up of twenty forty-seven-millimeter Hotchkiss rapid-fire cannon. Every one of these has to be tested, not because the Russians fear the efficiency of the guns themselves, but to enable them to learn just how the carriages and the fittings stand the strain and also what sort of a gun platform the vessel is.

Therefore the Cramps will man the ship with a crew from their yards, all of them skilled engineers and firemen, and Capt. Stechensovitch, the future commander, will take aboard gun crews made up from the 100 or more men who are here as a part of the crew that will take the ship home.

Once compasses are adjusted the nose of the Retvizan will be pointed out of the Delaware capes to the open

tory a northwest course will carry the vessel far away from the track of any regular liners or coasters and the warthy Russian sailors will be given their chance to participate in the affair.

This they will do by firing each gun at nothing but the water, first with half a service charge of powder and then with the regular war charge and projectile. The effects of each shot on every plate, beam and stanchion will be noted, for the great guns use 219 pounds of the highest power smokeless powder to hurl their 850-pound pointed cylinders of steel, and the crush and shock of such a discharge is little less than a small earthquake.

There is one thing sure in connection with the Retvizan. She will never catch fire. The lessons of the Yalu river, Manila bay and Santiago are now too deeply rooted in the minds of the Russians to permit them to use wood in any form in the construction of their ships. So she has asbestos bulkheads in all the living spaces and the entire interior is sheathed with the same fire-proof material. Even her boats will be of metal, a step which has not been taken by the United States yet, though the newer ships have precious little wood about them.

It will be only a few days before the world will know whether this \$3,000,000 combination of steel is a success or a failure, and if she proves the test, as everybody believes she will, then the world must bow, for the era of the 18-knot battleship has come.

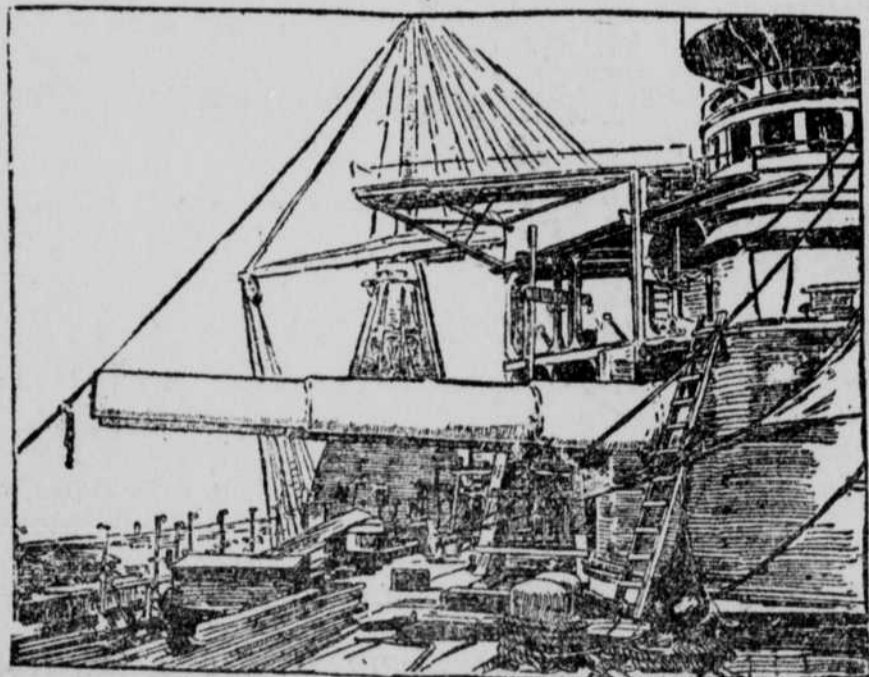
### HAUNT OF WILD BIRDS.

Granite Cliff Near North Cape, Holland, Literally Covered With Them.

One of the greatest haunts of wild birds in the world is Hjelmsö-Stauren, a mighty cliff of granite rising from the ocean near the North Cape, Holland. It is a precipitous wall nearly 4,000 feet in height, whose surfaces are broken by niches and shelves and little crevices evidently caused by the disintegration of the rock, writes Wm. E. Curtis in the Chicago Record Herald. The sea birds of the Arctic have found it of great convenience and make it their headquarters. The wall is protected from the wind by its peculiar position, and the instinct of the feathered population of this region has taught them that it is the safest place they can find. Hence every little niche contains a nest. Nobody knows how many there are, but during the season when little birds are mating and nesting and until the little ones are old enough to take care of themselves the cliff is covered with them.

The captain of the approaching steamer gives to his passengers notice of his nearness to the place, creeps up to the side of the cliff as quietly as a steamer can go, and when in the proper position blows a whistle, fires a cannon, lets off a lot of skyrocket and makes as big a noise as possible, which frightens the birds, and everything with wings starts shrieking into the air. The sky is filled with them like a cloud of smoke, covering the vessel for a few moments until they scatter in the distance, and after a while recover their courage and come back gradually and congratulate themselves upon their escape from death and disaster. A photograph cannot give any kind of an idea of the scene. The birds are so small and the rock is so large that they are mere atoms in the atmosphere. But those who have witnessed the avalanche of frightened birds, and have heard their plaintive, wailing cries, will never forget it. This colony, the captain declares, numbers millions. They consist of gulls, sea swallows, eider ducks, loons and puffins.

"Oh!" gasped the beautiful woman as she fell back, clutching at her



ONE OF THE RETVIZAN'S POWERFUL GUNS.

sea and she will be run slowly to the deep water that lies just beyond the Five Fathom banks, perhaps sixteen miles off shore. Then, between the northeast and southwest, light vessels of the Bank, known to be just 11 1/4 knots apart, the first speed run will be made, and when all is found satisfac-

heart and permitting the telegram to flutter to the floor. Her fashionable guests rushed forward, crying: "What is it? Has your husband met with an accident?" "No—no," she moaned; "It is from my son-in-law. I am a grandmother."—Chicago Record-Herald.

# OPERATING ON A MONKEY

Sitting upon its haunches, with its head laid back on the knees of an attendant, "John," the prize monkey of the Lincoln park "zoo," submitted to a painful operation at the animal house in the park, says the Chicago Daily News of recent date. When Cy DeVry, the veteran animal keeper of the "zoo," called to "John" the animal seemed to know what was coming, and hesitated when DeVry first called him. Then, summoning all its courage, it walked slowly to the front of the cage, crawled into DeVry's arms and was carried to a bed prepared for it in a sink. John has had a bad abscess on the upper part of the left cheek reaching from the eye nearly to the ear and the little face was badly swollen, indicating the pain which the animal has suffered for many days. It was feared that the life of the monkey could not be saved, and, as a last resort, an operation was determined upon.

### Keeper Acts Like a Surgeon.

DeVry, surrounded by lances, cures, a tiny saw, bottles of antiseptic and an assortment of syringes of various

bed which had been prepared and laid its head back with a look as much as to say: "Now I am ready; go ahead." First the swelling was cut open and then a copious wash of antiseptic was applied. As to septic conditions, as much care was used as though the operation were upon a man instead of a monkey. Then the bone was carefully scraped and another syringe full of antiseptic used.

### Portion of Bone Taken Out.

Next a small piece of the cheek bone was removed, and then more antiseptic. Then the cut was sewed up, leaving a small aperture for future dressings. Last of all, a generous quantity of iodine was put on the wound to help it heal, and then "John" was lifted tenderly and put in the cage, but not until the monkey had licked the hands of its surgeon and kissed his face, as though trying to show an understanding of it all and gratitude for the tender care shown. The intelligence which "John" showed this morning and the patience with which the monkey has borne his suffering were



PERFORMING OPERATION TO SAVE A "ZOO" MONKEY'S LIFE.

sizes and shapes, looked like a typical surgeon. When Cy was ready to proceed with the operation it was a pathetic sight to see the look of trust in the monkey's eyes and the courage and fortitude which it displayed were well-nigh human. At the first touch of the knife it pressed its head hard against the knee of the assistant and grabbed the forefinger of each of his hands with its paws, just as a person does who is about to undergo a painful operation. The monkey sat upon the

called remarkable by the animal-keeper.

### Operation an Entire Success.

From every viewpoint the operation was successful, and it is probable that "John" will live to delight hundreds of children with antics as in the past. The monkey never uttered a sound from the time the knife first touched it till it was put back in its cage, and then it chattered a few "words," which DeVry said meant that the animal was glad it was over.

### ROMANCE OF A BANK BOOK.

Savings Accounts That Have Laid Dormant for Many Years.

The Bank for Savings, which is 82 years old, has the heaviest dormant account in New York, about \$300,000, in which 2,000 accounts are tied up. Of these the ownership of about 200 are solved each year, and to this account are added about fifty, which, after the lapse of twenty-one years without being touched, are entitled to enter the dormant class. But in these days the bank does not allow accounts to rest so long, and after ten years have elapsed a search is made and the depositor located. After that the bank keeps informed of their whereabouts each year. In 1819, the year when the bank first opened its doors, a church mission in New York made a deposit in the name of "Mission to Jerusalem." The amount deposited was small, but it was sixty-one years before that amount and interest was paid to the proper church authorities. "One of the oldest cases which I have seen since I took hold of this work," says Mr. De Lissler, of the Bank of Savings, "was that of a colored girl who lived four miles from Jamaica. The pastor of the family, while making a call one day, saw the children playing with a soiled and worn bank book. They had scribbled over the leaves and were tossing the book about. No one in the family seemed to understand what the book was, and the pastor, looking at it and seeing that it was one of our pass books, advised them to bring it to the bank. This girl, who was 17 or 18 years old, brought it to me, and on looking up the account I saw that it called for several hundred dollars, deposited by a woman who afterward proved to be the girl's grandmother. Eventually the girl got the money, and the incident, I thought, was closed. But several months afterward she came in and said: 'I was just going by, and I thought I'd drop in and tell you how much good the money did us. And say, do you know, I've been married on it.' And she left beaming all over as I congratulated her."—New York Press.

"You said you were going to marry an artist, and now you're engaged to a dentist? Well, isn't he an artist? He draws from real life."—Fun.

### OCCASIONALLY AMUSING.

Hopelessly Ignorant British Critic Has Been at It Again.

Our cheerfully, carefully, completely, densely and hopelessly ignorant British critic has been at it again. This time his foolish little brain spread its drippings in the columns of the London Leader in this no less witty than accurate remark about a newly discovered old-rooted dietary habit of Americans: "'Dagonet' was at Stratford-on-Avon last week. He had an excellent lunch at one of the hotels, and he met some Americans. Apparently he had not met many before—at any rate, at the luncheon table. His surprise at their mixed menu was great. They ate hot meat and drank iced water. 'They had cheese and jam and pots of hot tea. Nothing extraordinary in that—for Americans. That is why they are such a dyspeptic nation. There is hardly a sound digestion among them. But where were the molasses and treacle which go to make up every Yankee's meal? If they were missing the meal was indeed incomplete. It is simply indispensable in the States. A story is told of an American lady traveling to India who insisted upon a jar of golden syrup being placed on her table at each meal. The vessel had to be searched high and low before this soothing syrup could be found. At first it amused her fellow passengers. By and by they grew sick of the treacle and the lady, and there was an exodus from her immediate vicinity to other tables until she was left severely alone."

### Asia a World in Herself.

According to the National Geographic Magazine, Asia is the continent of continents—a giant land to which Africa is but an appendage and a "Europe only an excrescence. Larger as to mainland than both Americas combined. Asia with her insular extension south-eastward might swallow the great landmass of Africa with Europe in addition. Of the 50,000,000 square miles of land on the face of the earth, Asia holds fully 15,000,000, or three-tenths of all—indeed, stretching, as she does, from the equator to the very shadow of the pole and within a few degrees of half way around the globe, she is a world in herself.

### Society Woman Raises Truck.

Near the pretty little town of Derby, Conn., is a farm which is managed by a gifted society woman who in her day has figured conspicuously in most European courts. The woman is Miss Frederica Sanford, daughter of Henry S. Sanford, at one time United States minister to Belgium. Miss Sanford personally supervises and works the place, raising "garden truck" and chickens. These she takes to Derby regularly, finding ready sale in the markets and hotels for all she can offer. Her widowed mother and her younger sister, Wilhelmina, live in the old Sanford homestead in town. Here Miss Sanford generally passes her nights, but from early spring till late in the fall she is up and away to her truck farm at daylight, often remaining there till sundown. In this way she makes a comfortable if simple living for the family, besides being able to indulge in some of the elegancies.

### Fighting Temperature is 85.

Professor Dexter, of the University of Illinois, has been investigating the effects of weather on morals and finds that the desire to fight rises with the thermometer, but stops at 85 degrees; wits after that as the mercury rises. Assault cases are therefore commoner in summer than in winter. Drunkenness, however, lessens with summer and increases with the coming of cold. Suicides are at a minimum on bright days with a high barometer and increases as the wind rises.

### A FEARLESS PHYSICIAN.

Benton, Ill., Sept. 20th.—Much comment has been caused by the action of Dr. R. H. Dunaway, a physician here who for over a year past has been recommending Dodd's Kidney Pills to those of his patients who suffered from Rheumatism, Bright's Disease, Diabetes or other Kidney Troubles.

Dr. Dunaway also published an open letter last May stating positively that he himself had been cured of Diabetes by Dodd's Kidney Pills, and that, after he had concluded he was going to die. He is a well man today and says he feels it his duty to do as he has done and is doing because Dodd's Kidney Pills saved his life.

### Swiss Anti-Swearers.

In Switzerland and Italy good people go about with little cards containing pledges against swearing. These are presented whenever the bearers hear some one indulging in profanity. The penalty for violating the pledge is a small self-imposed fine, to be paid to charity.

The way for a man to keep a secret from a woman is not to let her guess there is a secret to keep.

Brooklyn, N. Y., Sept. 20th.—Information has been received regarding the wonderful curative powers of the Garfield Headache Powders; people everywhere are using them and writing the manufacturers of the good results obtained.

### A Big Tree for St. Louis.

An effort is to be made to remove a large red oak tree from the wildest section of Arkansas to Forest park, St. Louis, for the Louisiana Purchase exposition. The tree is 160 feet high and 12 feet in diameter at the base. A double tramway will be built from the tree to the river, where it will be floated and towed to St. Louis. The tree will be dug up by the roots instead of being cut down, and none of the branches will be trimmed.

### Says He is 126.

Dr. Charles Smith, a physician of Philadelphia, contends that he was born in Cairo, Ill., in 1755—126 years ago. He says that he can produce indisputable proof that he was more than 30 years old when he was graduated at the medical college at Jena in 1808.

### Schmidt, Champion Rifle Shot.

Private Schmidt, of Company D, Fourteenth United State Infantry, now camped at the rifle range near Mount Clemens, Mich., made a score at shooting at 600 yards that the broke the record of the whole army. The target was a dummy man. Nineteen out of twenty of his shots took effect, any of which would have caused instant death in a living man, while the twentieth shot would have inflicted a serious or fatal wound. Schmidt's achievement is said to be not only unparalleled in United States army rifle shooting records, but also without precedent.

### A Bishop's Plain Talk.

Bishop W. A. Candler has been talking to the St. Louis Southern Methodist ministers on the higher criticism and the tendency of ritualism in the church. He deprecates special musical programs and paid choirs and soloists. The higher criticism, he declares, insists on "a sort of polka dot revelation."

### WISE PAINTING

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