

SPAIN AND UNCLE SAM

SHIPS THAT WOULD FIGHT IN CASE OF WAR.

The Don's Have Fine Vessels—Spain is a Much More Dangerous Enemy on the Sea Than Most People Suppose—Match for Our Own Cruisers.

WHAT would happen at sea if the United States and Spain went to war? In spite of all the new interests which crop up with the new administration this is a question that people are asking. It is a question that has been presented by almost every inquiring mind wherever patriotism exists in the United States.

United States—Armored ships, 33; guns of same, H. G., 168; guns of same, S. B., 513; unarmored ships, 33; guns of same, H. G., 192; guns of same, S. B., 359; unarmored gunboats, 28; guns of same, H. G., 262; dispatch vessel, 1; guns of same, 10; training, receiving and store ships, transports, tugs, etc., 36; guns of same, 112; torpedo boats, No. 1, 18; torpedo boats, No. 2, 9; total number of guns on board vessels of United States navy, 1,640; of these guns those from 40 to 80 tons, number 64; 20 to 40 tons, 188; 4 to 20 tons, 517; under 4 tons, 1,080.

Spain—Armored ships, 11; guns of same, H. G., 154; guns of same, S. B., 168; unarmored ships, 63; guns of same, H. G., 146; guns of same, S. B., 160; armored gunboats, 2; guns of same, H. G., 8; guns of same, S. B., 9; unarmored gunboats, 40; guns of same, H. G., 73; guns of same, S. B., 194; dispatch vessels, 2; guns of same, H. G., 6; guns of same, S. B., 2; training, receiving and store ships, transports, tugs, etc., 10; guns of same, 57; torpedo boats, No. 1, 60; torpedo boats, No. 2, 19; total number of guns on board vessels of Spanish navy, 960; of these 10 are from 40 to 50 tons; 110 from 20 to 40 tons; 286 from 4 to 20 tons, and 554 under 4 tons.

battleship Iowa, which has her trial trip next month, will be the vessel which will come near to calling the Pelayo. The only vessel that now fly our flag which can be considered fit antagonists for Spain's banner warship are the battleships Indiana and Massachusetts, the armament of each of which consists of four 12-inch, eight 8-inch, and four 6-inch guns. These ships are of 11,000 tons displacement, as compared with the Pelayo's 10,000; but in reality the Pelayo is slightly heavier in point of service than either of our own battleships. Both the Oregon and Indiana have the thickest side armor, but it is only in a partial belt, which protects the vitals of the ship. It is of a maximum thickness of 18 inches, and is composed of Harveyized nickel steel. The bore of the guns of these battleships is about thirteen inches in diameter. The guns are mounted within seventeen-inch steel turrets and five inches of steel protect the six-inch battery.

The cruiser New York has her prototype in the Spanish navy in the armored cruiser Emperor Carlos V. While very strongly resembling the New York, she is perhaps a trifle larger, her tonnage being 9,100 to the New York's 8,500. She carries two 11-inch guns in barbette ten inches thick; eight 5 1/2-inch rapid fire guns and four 4-inch flinters, together with a powerful secondary battery of rapid-fire six and three-pounder guns. Her protective deck is six inches thick, and her sides are partially plated with two-inch steel. She is the newest of the Spanish fleet of any considerable size.

Not only have we a fair match for the Carlos in the New York, but the Brooklyn will keep her hands full. In tonnage she is a little more than the equal of the Carlos, her tonnage being 9,500. The Brooklyn is a better ship than the New York, and that is saying a good deal. She carries eight 8-inch and twelve 5-inch guns, to the New York's six 8-inch and twelve 4-inch. While the Brooklyn's armor is a trifle inferior to the New York's it is infinitely more modern.

There is in the Spanish navy also one of the finest types of the modern armored cruiser. It is the Infanta Maria Theresa. She represents a fleet of eight cruisers of her own sort which fly the Spanish flag. Her armament consists of two 9 1/2-100 guns in barbette and ten 5-10-inch rapid-fire. For protection she has a belt at the water line twelve inches thick along the central body of the ship. Twelve

While it is true that the majority of the naval powers do not approve of the type of vessels that monitors represent, their usefulness is unquestioned. If worst comes to worst, and our warships are inadequate in point of numbers, we could call on our big liners for aid. Of course it would not take much time to make unarmored cruisers out of them, and, so far as speed is concerned, there is nothing in the Spanish navy, or our own, either, for that matter, which could touch them. Spain has one big line upon which it could draw, the Campania Transatlantica, whose thirty-two steamers have a gross tonnage of more than 100,000.

The defeat of Spain in a sea content would, it will be seen from the facts given, be a task that differs widely from child's play. If Uncle Sam and Don Spianard really come to blows it will be a duel, each of the combatants in which will have a foeman worthy of his steel.

THIRTEEN SUPERSTITIOUS MEN Would Not Go to Dinner Until the Fourteenth Guest Appeared.

"This matter of superstition always makes me laugh," said Mr. A. T. Britton when some one spoke of never liking to do anything on Friday. "I made a trip of 15,000 miles last summer with a party of twelve others, making thirteen in all, and we started on a Friday and never missed a train or a boat or a meal or had an ache or pain among us the whole time." Then he told a laughable story, says an exchange. "It has been the custom of the survivors of the old national rifles to meet each year on the anniversary of our mustering into service in the war of the rebellion and enjoy a dinner and swap reminiscences near and remote. Several years ago I had the boys to my house and had prepared the very best dinner I knew how to give. There are usually sixteen or seventeen survivors at such a gathering, but this time when we were about to enter the dining room somebody counted noses and discovered we were thirteen all told. Now, those other twelve men were brave and courageous gentlemen, who had faced cannon unflinchingly and were afraid of nothing tangible, but not a single man of them was willing to enter that room. At last, after a half-hour's wait, during which my dinner was rapidly approaching the spoiled stage, another man came and in we went. Now, that man who made the fourteenth in the party and broke the unlucky spell, according to the twelve other guests, was Charlie Alexander and before the dinner was concluded he had to be carried home and in two months he was dead. All the others are living yet."

European Degeneracy. Statisticians of Europe view with increasing alarm the sociological fact of the steady decrease of the number of births in all the European nations. This fact, while little known, is very remarkable, because it is one of the symptoms of "degeneration," that bugaboo of modern physiologists, who declare that a constant decrease of population of all the civilized nations may confidently be expected.

Table with 3 columns: Country, 1876, 1896. Rows include Hungary, Germany, Austria, Italy, Netherlands, England and Wales, Scotland, United Kingdom, Belgium, Switzerland, Sweden, Ireland.

In Time to Come. Mrs. Strong—I suppose you have heard that Miss Ricketts and Miss Gazsum are deadly enemies now? Mrs. Small—Yes, I heard; but I didn't hear who was the man at the bottom of it.—Judge.

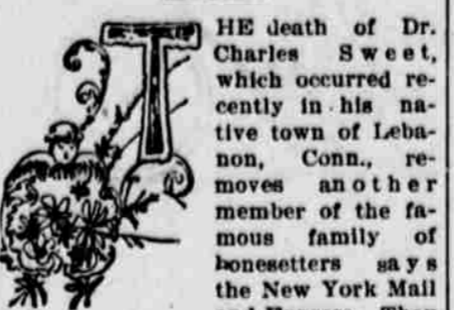
FLOATING PARAGRAPHS.

A new school chair can be raised at any height or set at any angle by means of a clamp and thumb screw in the base. Young Solicitor—Make yourself easy, my dear sir; the successful management of your case shall be the task of my life.—Tit-Bits. A clergyman in the west of England recently prayed "that the spark of grace might be watered with the dew of blessing from on high." "Are you going abroad this summer?" "I don't know. Papa is in Washington seeing Mr. McKinley about it now."—Cleveland Plain Dealer. Spain's wretched showing in agricultural pursuits is said by the British consul at Cadix to be due to the use of primitive implements of the time of Julius Caesar. At the beginning of this month the people of Fossil, in Gilliam county, Oregon, were suffering for want of flour. The roads were in such condition that no hauling could be done. The Lady of the House—Who broke all these dishes, Annie? Annie—I did, mum. Shure, didn't you tell me when I first came, when I heard the door-bell, to drop everything?—Yonkers Statesman. A meadow at Bidedford, Me., is known as the hoodoo lawn, for the reason that rain follows every time it is mowed, before the grass can be cured. It is said that this occurred for twenty-five consecutive years.

A NATURAL HEALER.

MAN IN OHIO WHO POSSESSES MYSTERIOUS POWERS.

Says His Sense of Touch Explains It—So Highly Developed That He Locates Bullets in the Flesh When Science Fails.



HE death of Dr. Charles Sweet, which occurred recently in his native town of Lebanon, Conn., removes another member of the famous family of bonesetters says the New York Mail and Express. They were spoken of as natural bonesetters, and it is said they never opened a book on the subject of anatomy. The death of Mr. Sweet probably leaves only two persons in the country who made a practice of setting bones by instinct. One is "Bonesetter" Reese of Youngstown, O. He is now a student in a Cleveland (O.) medical college. A recent law enacted in Ohio forbids the practice of medicine or surgery without a certificate of graduation and a state license, and Reese will have to take a regular collegiate course before he can resume his mysterious healing powers.

"Bonesetter" Reese has never studied anatomy in his life, his phenomenal cures, so to speak, being accomplished by the "laying on of hands." "Bonesetter" does not claim that his cures are performed with the assistance of divine power. His fame extends over nearly every state in the union and his departure for Cleveland recently caused a crush at his home in Youngstown, O. Some of his patients came in cabs, and others hobbled along on crutches, but all received the same greeting and all apparently went away cured. There were people present from Akron, Cleveland, Pittsburg, Washington, New Castle and other adjoining towns. All expressed sincere faith in the powers of their untutored physician.

One old man came from Austintown. He had been compelled to use crutches since last spring, owing to an injury to his ankle. He left the house without his crutches and seemed as happy as a boy out of school. An old woman from New Castle came to the house with her arm in a sling. It had been fractured and afterward set by a regular practicing surgeon. The pain afterward became almost unbearable. "Poor job," said Reese, after he examined the fractured arm. "It must be reset." Grasping the wrist firmly in his right hand, he gave the arm a peculiar twist. There was a sharp snap, a crunching of bones and the operation was over.

Another of "Bonesetter's" remarkable cures was that of a Sewickley boy who had been unable to walk for two years. Physicians had been treating him for necrosis of the bone. Reese's marvelous sense of touch enabled him to discover the cause of the boy's affliction and with a few twists and jerks the ligaments and joints were placed in their proper position and the boy has not been troubled since. Physicians can not account for "Bonesetter's" skill. They deride him unmercifully, but are compelled to admit that he has made some marvelous cures. He has practiced his peculiar profession for the last twenty years and has many thousands of cures to his credit. There has never been a fracture of any kind yet that was beyond his skill.

He became known for his wonderful gift of anatomy when a mere boy. He lived on farm on the outskirts of Youngstown, O., with his parents. He proved that it wasn't necessary to kill a cow, a dog or a pig because it had broken its leg. The broken limbs of the stock around the farm afforded ample opportunities for young Reese to exercise his skill. As a veterinary surgeon he soon commanded attention that extended beyond the limits of his own county. Reese was called upon to doctor the injured stock of the farms for miles around. When a boy he liked nothing better than to dissect some animal and in his own crude way learned anatomy. He dislocated bones for the mere pleasure of putting them together again. There was not an injured animal or bird within reach that Reese didn't experiment on.

Of course, it was but natural that he turned his attention to the setting of human bones and it was soon discovered that his skill was not merely limited to the setting of animal bones. His reputation grew so amazingly that he abandoned the farm to take up his peculiar profession in more extensive fields.

Reese is now permanently located in Youngstown, O., but has traveled all over the country. In some districts the people looked on him with awe and superstition. "Bonesetter" is married, and has a large family; but, strange to say, not one of his children inherits his wonderful instinct. He does not require the assistance of the "X" rays in locating foreign objects in the flesh. His delicate sense of touch is all that is necessary. On one occasion a bullet had been imbedded in a boy's leg for several years. Attempts to locate it had been of no avail. Running his finger tips lightly over the boy's arm, Reese declared that he had located the ball. The attending physician, who accompanied the boy, doubted Reese's assertion and was at first reluctant to commence the operation. "I know the ball is there," said Reese. "Cut into the flesh as I have described and you will find it." The doctor was

AWAY TWENTY-SIX YEARS.

Left Wife and Daughter and Went West to Seek a Fortune.

This might have been an Enoch Arden tale, but it isn't. Indeed, it would have been if the Mary of this incident had married a second time. But Mary didn't, says the New York World. Thirty years ago they came to Vineland, N. J., and set up their household goods in the midst of the pine forests. There were Captain Moses B. Lucas, an old-time ship captain, retired, his good wife, Mary B. Lucas, M. D., graduate of the Boston schools, and their daughter Lucy. They bought a farm tract, built a little house and set to work to clear away the woodland. Two years of this satisfied the old sea captain, in whose veins flowed the roving blood of a seafaring man. One day he faced the good wife, satchel in hand. "I'm goin' out west, Mary," said he, "to seek my fortune. It's too dead rusty here to suit me." They sent him away with tears and blessings. After he had gone Dr. Lucas braced herself for a bout with fate. She decided to clear the land herself, and as her skirts discommoded her she put on bloomers, the first in all likelihood in south Jersey, and her daughter, when she reached womanhood, followed suit. Ignorant people gazed the two lone women. Boys threw stones at them. But the Lucases kept on, and in the course of years they carved a fine little farm out of their woodland tract. Once in a great while there was an opportunity for Mrs. Lucas to practice her profession, and when the village of Pleasanton arose on the site of what was a single store she secured quite a neat little practice. Years passed. No word from the captain. The woman mourned him as dead. Recently there stepped from a train at Vineland a gray-haired, well-to-do looking man of 78.

INSTEAD OF SHOULDER-BRACES.

A gymnasium director of long experience disapproves of shoulder-braces. They weaken, so he thinks, the muscles whose function it is to keep the shoulders in their normal position. This they do in two ways: By relieving the muscles of their work, and by putting a constraint upon them and so depriving them of a normal supply of blood. Instead of artificial shoulder braces, the director recommends the frequent and persistent use of exercise specially adapted to promote an erect carriage. It is not enough, he says, to work an hour or so daily in a gymnasium. The proper exercise should be taken many times a day, and therefore should be of a sort that can be practiced anywhere and without special apparatus. Some of the habits and exercises on which he lays stress are as follows:

- 1. Make it a rule to keep the back of the neck close to the back of the collar.
2. Roll the shoulders backward and downward.
3. Try to squeeze the shoulder-blades together many times a day.
4. Stand erect at short intervals during the day—head up, chin in, chest out, shoulders back.
5. Walk or stand with the hands clasped behind the head and the elbows wide apart.
6. Walk about, or even run upstairs, with from ten to forty pounds on the top of the head.
7. Try to look at the top of your high-cut vest on your necktie.
8. Practice the arm movements of breast-stroke swimming while standing or walking.
9. Hold the arms behind the back.
10. Carry a cane or umbrella behind the small of the back or behind the neck.
11. Put the hands on the hip, with elbows back and fingers forward.
12. Walk with the thumbs in the armpoles of the vest.
13. When walking, swing the arms and shoulders strongly backward.
14. Stand now and then during the day with all the posterior parts of the body, so far as possible, touching a vertical wall.
15. Look upward as you walk on the sunny side of the street.

WEBSTER STATUE DEFACED.

Visitors to the Capitol Use It to Strike Matches On. Daniel Webster's statue at the capitol is having a hard time of it, and the police are scurrying about in frantic endeavor to suppress a new form of desecrating the marble representation of the great orator, says the Pittsburg Dispatch. When it was put in position the representatives of his native state were delighted over the fact that although the statue is a small one, because Daniel himself was undersized, it was advantageously located at the very entrance to statutory hall, the large room which was once the house of representatives, which echoed in his eloquence prior to his senatorial days.

Unfortunately for the friends of Daniel, the statue was altogether too conspicuous, and it became a favorite point of attack for straggling visitors with unlighted cigars. Not long ago some vandal scratched a match on the tail of Daniel's coat, and later another mark of sulphur was discovered across his foot. Both of the offenders were arrested and released on payment of a small deposit, which they promptly forfeited, but the attention of the police has at last been diverted from the Pere Marquette statue, which now rests in all its marble loveliness free from attack by religious fanatics, and they give all their time to watching people with unlighted cigars as they pass Webster's statue, and the man who incautiously draws a match from his pocket at the critical moment is pretty certain to be pounced upon by one of the blue-coated guardians of the capitol and warned that it is forbidden to scratch a match on even the innermost recesses of the clothing or limbs of the great expounder of the constitution.

Well Matched.

A Kansas editor and his wife attended the recent National editorial association at Galveston, Tex., leaving their daughter, 17 years old, to get out the paper during his absence. He made a side run to Mexico while on the trip. The first issue under the "new woman" regime contained this notice at the head of the editorial column: "Pa is in Mexico. I received a letter from him this morning. He has got ma with him, and is having a darn good time, I guess. I wish he was home, as it is lonesome to be editor-in-chief all alone. Pa and ma went to church and a bull fight last Sunday. Go well together, pa and ma, church and bull fight."

Trolley Cars as a Hearse.

One of the results of the floods in East St. Louis, Ill., brought about a novel funeral procession. William Lorman, a plasterer, died. The street was flooded and neither carriage nor hearse could get near the house. The street car company were appealed to and responded with two trolley cars. One was used for a hearse and the other was utilized by the mourners. The journey to the gates of the cemetery was made in this manner.

No Hanging in These States.

The only states in which capital punishment is forbidden by law are Michigan, Wisconsin, Rhode Island and Maine.

Look Out, Girls.

It is now definitely known to scientists that the gum-chewing habit produces wrinkles.

BEAR TRAPPED HIMSELF.

While William Delong of Cammal, Pa., was driving along the road with his butcher wagon, a bear smelt him and began to follow him. The rear door was open and coming up behind, Bruin calmly climbed in and commenced chewing on a leg of mutton. His paw struck the lever which closes the door. It shut with a bang, and Delong, to his intense surprise, found that he had live as well as dead meat aboard. The bear tried his best to escape, but couldn't, and Delong drove four miles to Cammal, where the animal was shot, and converted into steaks.

A Very Bad Case.

"Please to give me something to eat, sir," says an old woman. "I had a blind child—he was my only means of subsistence—and the poor boy has recovered his sight."

One Family's Follies.

Six children of John McGrath of Seneca, Kan., were drowned recently. Eleven of the McGrath family have met death by drowning within two years.



WARSHIPS OF SPAIN AND OF THE UNITED STATES. (Spain, dark; United States, white.)

The letters H. G., which appear in the foregoing paragraphs, signify heavy guns, or primary batteries. The letters S. B., similarly used, mean secondary batteries, or light guns. Torpedo boats No. 1 include torpedo boats and torpedo catchers over 100 feet in length. Torpedo boats No. 2 include torpedo boats under 100 feet in length. Leaving aside the question of jingoism or the anti-war spirit, a careful survey of these facts shows beyond peradventure that it would be no one-sided affair, as so many people are fond of observing, and it is highly probable that the United States navy would be lessened by several vessels before the Spaniard was forced to acknowledge the supremacy of the Stars and Stripes. In other words, the officers and men who wear Uncle Sam's livery on the ocean would get a taste of genuine fighting and plenty of opportunity for larger doses. The most formidable ship in the Spanish navy is the Pelayo, of 10,000 tons burden, which was constructed by French shipbuilders about ten years ago. She represents, despite the fact of her age, the most formidable advancement along the line of naval warfare accomplished during the period that has elapsed since the rebellion. Her ram is of the most powerful variety, and her battery consists of two 12 1/2-10-inch rapid-fire guns, which practically constitute her broadside. Then there is the secondary battery, consisting of a dozen smaller guns and six torpedo tubes.

Inches is the thickness of the barbette armor. The nearest approach that we have to this class of war vessel is found in the Maine or the Texas, whose tonnage is 7,000 and 6,500 respectively. The Maine has four 10-inch guns in turrets ten inches thick and the latter has two 12-inch guns in turrets ten inches thick. Both have six 6-inch guns in their main batteries. These are the second-class battleships; but, to tell the truth, they are not the equal of the armored cruisers of Spain. The only prototypes of these vessels are found in the English navy.

There is one point of advantage we have over Spain, and that is in our rams and monitors. While every modern warship is possessed of a ram, we have in the Katahdin a vessel which is built for nothing else but sinking her prow into an unlucky foe. The Katahdin is not a very big vessel as warships go, for her tonnage is only 2,200; but she could knock the spots off the best warship that was ever constructed, armored or unarmored, if only given half a chance. Then there are our five double-turreted monitors, of which the most powerful is the unlucky Puritan of 6,000 tons. Just how efficient a boat the Puritan is can hardly be said at present, for it was only a few days ago that she came lagging into port, the end of her hawser stretching away from the stern of the cruiser Columbia. When the Puritan went down to Charleston to run the blockade she was well nigh swamped in the great storm, and this fact, together with her latest accident, makes naval authorities rather hesitant about fixing the extent of her powers.

Besides the Puritan, there is the Terror, the Amphitrite, the Monadnock and the Miantonomah. They are about half the Puritan's size. Their armor is eleven inches thick, and their guns are 10-inch pieces. Of course, the monitor is pre-eminently a coast defender. In smooth water and for harbor work this craft is unsurpassed. The monitor is a very different vessel than when Mr. Ericson's invention had its famous duel with the Merrimac. In fighting strength and in defensive power it is several hundred per cent better.