

# Uncle Sam's Gun Shops

The extensive plant established by the United States government at the Washington navy yard is one of the attractions for visitors to the capital city. Several immense buildings are required for the accommodation of the machinery and workmen employed, and the entire work is carried on under the supervision of naval officers. The principal structure of the group of buildings is approximately 900 feet long and 100 feet wide, and is devoted to the boring, rifling and jacketing of the guns, or the complete construction of the guns proper as distinguished from the carriage and other accessories. The well-known Morgan traveling cranes and hoisting apparatus are employed for suspending and moving the heavy ordnance, and in applying the jacket thereto, and this machinery is all of the largest and most substantial type.

Trackways and beams of great size and strength extend along the sides and across the upper portion of the building to support the traveling hoists, and the suspending chains, made up of enormous links freely travel longitudinally and across the building, and upon each of the movable beams is a house or cab containing the propelling mechanism and the operator.

Gigantic lathes are used for supporting the heavy guns and operating the drills and other required tools, and the most expert workmen are employed in this important work.

The "jacketing" of the gun is a delicate operation, requiring the highest order of mechanical skill. The slightest flaw or inequality in the surface of the gun is quickly detected, and fre-

quently more than a single trial is necessary before the jacket is successfully placed in position. The visitor observing the "jacketing" process will be impressed with the quiet discipline of the workmen engaged. The master workman directs his subordinates, and especially those in charge of the hoisting apparatus, almost entirely by signals with the head and hands, and the noisy shouting of orders is not resorted to. In fact, the discipline of the great establishment is quite strict and along naval lines.

Numerous notices are conspicuously posted to the effect that workmen are not allowed to talk to visitors. Necessarily the quality of the metal employed in the manufacture of the huge guns, constituting the armament of our great warships, is a matter of first importance, and the materials are subjected to the highest tests known to science. As a result of the great care required in this respect, as well as in the subsequent steps involved in the development of the finished product, the cost of producing these guns is very great.

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Many curious and specially designed machines are seen in operation here for scraping, shaving, drilling and recessing the hard gun metal, and most of them are entirely automatic, requiring only the attention of a skilled workman to adjust the work and keep the machinery in perfect working order.

In still another separate building the work of forming and drawing cartridge cases is carried on, and this is by no means the least interesting department of the plant to the ordinary visitor. The rapid transformation of a bulky, cumbersome looking blank into a thin, shapely cylinder is an operation which attracts the eye and excites the interest of the unskilled looker-on.

The array of boxes or crates of completed cartridge cases ranged along one end of the building would indicate that Uncle Sam is a firm believer in the soundness of the injunction, "In time of peace prepare for war." The formidable looking rows of cartridge cases, however, are harmless, as they have yet to be charged with the projectiles and high explosives.

As above stated, all of the work connected with the gun plant is in charge of naval officers who are specialists in the construction of ordnance, and here and there about the great workshops is seen one of these officers arrayed at this season in his summer uniform of white duck, with a cap of the same color, the spotlessness of the garb contrasting conspicuously with the rather grimy surroundings and the greasy overalls of the hand workers.

The gun shops necessitated the establishment within the yard of a railway system on a small scale, and the tooting of locomotives and the shifting of loaded flat cars give evidence of industry and labor.

The manufacture of naval guns and ammunition has greatly increased the number of the government's employes, and constitute another step in the growth and development of our national strength and resources.

**Anarchists Don't Prosper.**  
"Very few anarchists ever become prosperous and contented citizens," says a detective. "There have been some instances, though, I have in mind one man who fifteen years ago was very prominent in anarchistic circles here. He even published a little paper in the interest of an-

right side to twenty-one; the toes giving ten numbers more, to thirty-one. Beyond this they are satisfied with "many."

**"An Error in Nature."**  
Among the more interesting examples of uncommon British birds at the Zoo is a crossbill, the seed-eating fowl which Buffon stigmatized as being "an error and a defect in nature." But Buffon only dwelt upon the odd way in which the upper and lower beak cross each other obliquely, and was not aware that this apparently deformed bill is exceedingly serviceable in extracting the seeds of apples and pines, upon which the crossbill chiefly feeds. The specimen at the Zoo is of a greenish-yellow hue, but the full-dressed male bird is bright red, which color, together with its crossed bill, has been explained in a medieval legend as due to its attempts to draw out the nails from the cross.—London Express.

**Eradicating Rabies.**  
During the whole of 1900 no case of rabies was found in England or Scotland and it is asserted with confidence that the disease which had been present for centuries has been entirely eradicated. This official statement justifies the stringent muzzling order passed by Parliament a few years ago and the vexatious regulations against importing dogs. A few cases of rabies were reported from Wales, where the regulations were not enforced strictly. For the first time in fifty-one years not a single person died of hydrophobia in England and Wales in 1899.—New York Sun.

**Souvenir Cups Latest.**  
Made of a New Metal and in Many Fantastic Shapes.  
One of the latest fads to show itself in the jewelry trade is the souvenir cup of metal. This article, says the *Jewelers Weekly*, is already popular in some sections of the United States. The souvenir spoon had its origin in Washington, D. C., and so, too, the souvenir cup in its present form, seems to have first appeared in that city a few months ago. It has now extended to other cities. In Washington the cups became a fad because that is a great tourist center. So far these cups have all been made to order in Germany and imported by one or two New York firms, who claim to have control, for this country, of all manufacturers of the metal employed in this form. But if the demand expands and develops into a general fad there is every reason to expect American manufacturers to enter into competition with the German houses that now have the monopoly. The metal used is the new Kaiser Zinn metal, which has come into demand lately for various uses, and the cups are sold either in their natural condition or silver plate inside and outside, or silver plate outside and gold lined. The popular shape is that of a white tumbler three and a half inches high by two and three-eighths inches in diameter at the top and one and five-eighths inches at the bottom. There are other more fancy shapes, such as a small German beer stein and a small thin goblet eight or nine inches high. On the sides are local designs which give the cups their souvenir significance.

## PERSUADED WITH A CAMERA.

How a Young Man Won Over His Prospective Father-in-Law.

"It was simply bull-headed luck," said the young man with the red shirt waist. "Papa declared that it would be a warm day when he consented to my marrying his daughter, and as the weather record had been broken several times after he had made that remark, I was beginning to lose hope. When all-the-world-to-me went on her vacation I went to the same place and put up at the same hotel. Now, papa-in-law-to-be is an old blowhard, and it made me tired—everybody else, too—the way he bragged about the fish he caught in former years. Finally, some one hinted that it would be a good plan for him to make good and give us an example of his skill as a fisherman. He accepted the challenge and spent three days getting his tackle ready. He went alone, as he said he didn't want to be bothered by having any greenhorns along, and we waited with bated breath for him to return. Now, I am something of a camera fiend and late in the afternoon I started out to take a picture of a little wooded dell when the shadows were well down. I was making my way to the road through some thick brush when I discovered my daddy-in-law-to-be standing in the middle of the road bargaining with a small boy for a long string of magnificent fish. Quick as a flash I took a snap shot of him just as he was holding onto his pocket with one hand and digging into it with the other. I let the old man brag around the hotel for three days about the fish he had caught. Then I showed him the picture, told him if he didn't consent to my marrying his daughter I would spread it broadcast over the hotel, and pointed out where his reputation would be. He wilted, gulped hard and surrendered. He isn't a bad sort when you know how to handle him."—Detroit Free Press.

## CONCEITED TITLES.

MANY OF THOSE CLAIMED ARE NOT TRUTHFUL.

The Assurance of Some Eastern Rulers Makes Fabulous Reading—Tremendous Claims of Earthly Importance Made in the Titles of Sovereigns.

Even when King Edward has had his title so tinkered that it will include the sonorous phrase, "King of all the British dominions beyond the seas," he still will not be as well off in high-sounding titles as many other sovereigns. 'The Sultan of Turkey affects the "style and title" of "Commander of the Faithful," and the Emperor of Morocco is "Prince of True Believers," while the Shah of Persia and the Emperor of Abyssinia both call themselves "King of Kings." But these are modest when compared to the Emperor of China, who styles himself "Son of Heaven." The Emperor of Japan has a most curious title, being styled the Mikado, or "Honorable Gate." Thebaw of Burmah, the wicked old fellow who was overthrown by the British, used modestly to call himself "His Most Glorious, Excellent Majesty; Lord of the Ishaddan; King of Elephants; Master of Many White Elephants; Lord of the Mines of Gold, Silver, Rubies, Amber and the Noble Serpentine; Sovereign of the Empire of Thunaparantah and Tampadipa and other Great Empires and Countries, and of the Umbrella Wearing Chiefs; Arbitrer of Life, the Great Righteousness, the Sun-Descended Monarch, King of Kings, and Possessor of Boundless Dominions and Supreme Wisdom." For obvious reasons the modest Thebaw had no visiting cards. The Amir of Afghanistan calls himself "The Light of Union and Religion." The Emperor of Austria is "His Apostolic Majesty"; the King of Spain, "His Most Catholic Majesty," and the Bourbon kings of France were "Most Christian Majesties"—at least in title, though they were sometimes quite the other way in reality. But King Edward need not take a back seat when it comes to religious titles, for is not that pious man "Defender of the Faith"? The King of Portugal is also possessed of a religious title, being "His Very Faithful Majesty." King Oscar of Sweden calls himself "King of the Goths and the Wends," and the German "War Lord" calls himself "Duke of the Wends." The King of Denmark, like his royal cousin of Sweden, calls himself "King of the Goths and the Wends." This is very confusing to an amateur in the king business and their majesties of Denmark and Sweden ought to toss up to see who keeps the title. It must make the Sultan of Turkey smile to see how many monarchs, reigning and dethroned, call themselves "King of Jerusalem." This title is borne by the King of Spain and the Emperor of Austria, by the Bourbon claimant of the throne of "Naples and the two Sicilies," as well as by Don Carlos, the claimant of the Spanish throne. The Sultan calls himself "Servant of Jerusalem," which is more modest, and as he has the city the other fellows can quarrel over who is "king" thereof. The King of Portugal has a set of titles for "private circulation," as it were, in which he especially delights, calling himself, when he feels particularly "cocky," "King of the African Sea, Lord of Guinea and of the navigation and commerce of Ethiopia, Arabia, Persia and India." Little King Alphonso of Spain, not to be outdone by his neighbor, calls himself "King of the East and West Indies, of India and the Ocean Continents." The President of the United States came very near having a title. When they were fixing up the Constitution it was proposed to insert the clause, "The President shall be called His Excellency." Benjamin Franklin offered an amendment, which read, "And the Vice President shall be called His Most Superfluous Highness." In the latter which followed the title clause was lost.

## REMEDY FOR FAT AND LEAN.

A Philadelphia Doctor Gives Same Prescription for Opposite Effects.

The pretty stenographer had never worked for a physician before, and hence, when on this first morning, office hours began, she settled back in her chair to listen with as much interest as though she were at a matinee. The first patient was a young man whose padded coat would not conceal the narrowness of his shoulders and the weakness of his chest. He was a very puny young man, indeed. "Doctor," he said, "I want to get fat. I want to resemble a man rather than a lead pencil. I want to wear a bathing suit without shame." The physician answered: "Rise at 7 o'clock and exercise an hour with chest weights and Indian clubs. Then take a cold bath and breakfast without coffee or tea. During the day contrive, somehow, to get a two hours' walk, and sleep at least nine hours a night. Don't smoke. If you follow these directions you'll gain ten pounds in a month." After the thin young man had gone a fat young woman entered. "Doctor," she said, "make me thin. Take off most of this too solid flesh. Let me wear a straight front like other girls." The doctor prescribed: "Rise at 7 o'clock and exercise an hour. Then take a cold bath and for breakfast have no coffee or sweets. Get a two hours' walk during the day, and sleep at least nine hours every night. You'll lose ten pounds a month if you obey me." The patient left, and the stenographer asked the doctor how it was he prescribed for leanness and for fatness the same thing. "Because," he said, "that thing is exercise and exercise makes you right. It makes you, if you are too thin, stouter, and, if you are too stout, thinner. It is the only remedy I have confidence in."—Philadelphia Record.

## OUR INCREASING OIL TRADE.

American Petroleum Better Than Russian—Winning Out in Japan.

Petroleum oil, with shipments of more than \$70,000,000 worth in the year ending July 1, ranks after cereals, cotton, provisions, steel and iron as an item of American export to foreign countries. Of the \$70,000,000 worth of American petroleum shipped last year exports amounting to \$5,000,000 were sent to Japan, a larger amount than was shipped to any country except England, Germany and Belgium. Russia was our chief competitor, but American petroleum is of better quality than the Russian, 100 gallons of crude Russian oil averaging 33 gallons of refined oil, whereas 100 gallons of American petroleum produce 75, nearly twice as much, and the competition between the United States and Russia in petroleum in the Japanese market has so far been favorable to American shippers. American petroleum brings higher prices in Japan than does Russian and according to a recent report of the American Consul at Reichenberg, the price of Russian petroleum is declining. With the growth of the foreign market for petroleum, there is a large increase, for new commercial uses, of the expanding supply. So, as the output of American petroleum increases by the discovery of new wells, the demand for its use seems to increase correspondingly.—New York Sun.

## Why Some Women Go to Europe.

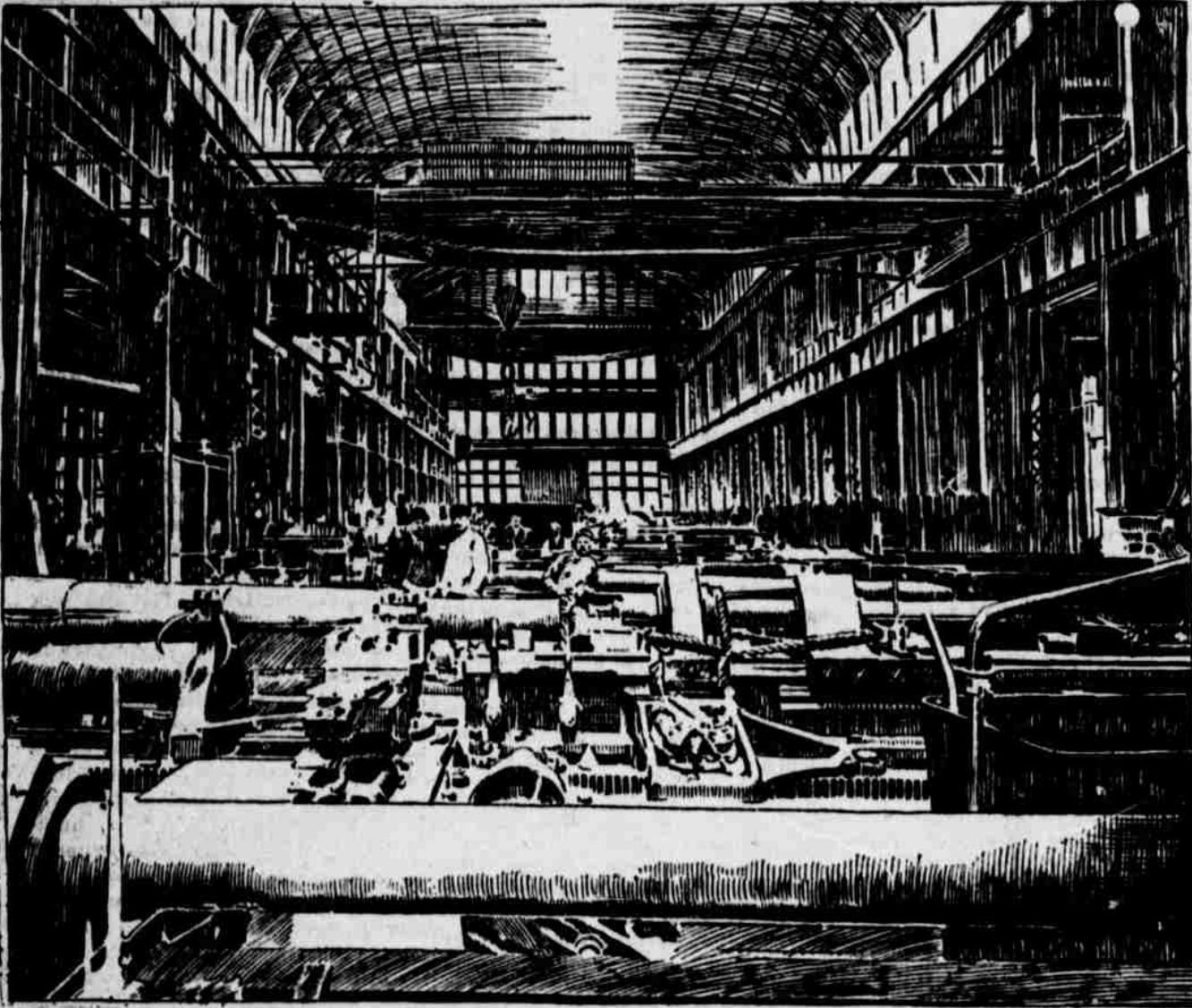
A half dozen women were seated in their steamer chairs, well wrapped in cloaks and rugs, on the deck of one of the great ocean liners. As the long afternoon crept by they exchanged disjointed confidences as to their plans for the summer in Europe. "It is my first visit," said a middle-aged, bright-eyed woman. "I have to make real a thousand people who have always been dreams to me, from Charlemagne to Queen Victoria. I am going to stand in the houses where Scott and Keats and Lamb and Thackeray lived. I am going into Savonarola's cell and Dante's garret and, the hut which Francis of Assisi thought God had set aside for him at the beginning of the world." "Dear me!" said a young woman near by. "I am going over to get some new ideas for posters. That is my branch of art, and Paris is the place to study it." Two women at the end of the line of recumbent figures were also discussing their plans. "My sister and I," said one, "hope to spend the summer in the great cathedral towns. An hour alone in York or Canterbury is more helpful to me than any formal service." "I never took any interest in architecture," said her neighbor, a pretty, young girl. "Mamma and I run over to Paris every year to arrange our wardrobes for the next season. You really cannot trust any of the dressmakers with orders. I always superintend my own gowns and hats, Notre Dame? No, I don't care for it. Gloomy old place! I did the churches and galleries when I was a schoolgirl. I've done with them now."—Youth's Companion.

## The Museum's Rich Endowment.

It is now estimated that the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York will get about \$6,000,000 from the estate of Jason S. Rogers of Paterson, N. J., the odd old fellow who used to talk with Di Censola by the hour about the finances of the museum, but never in twenty years asked a question about the contents of it.

## Obitgling.

Old Lady: "Dear! dear! I don't like to see a little boy smoking a cigarette." The boy: "Don't y', ma'am? Well if y'll come 'round this way at the same time t'morrow I'll try t' be smokin' a cigar or a pipe."—Philadelphia Bulletin.



VIEW OF THE INTERIOR OF THE PRINCIPAL STRUCTURE.

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archy. The sheet was so rigid that after the Haymarket riots it was suppressed. This man was an expert chemist and his fame had followed him from Germany, from which country he had been exiled. He was offered employment at a salary of \$60 a week, more money than he had ever dreamed of making. He was frugal in his habits and soon acquired a snug bank account. With approaching affluence he turned his back upon his old associates and eventually married an American woman. To-day his name is but a memory among the anarchists."—Philadelphia Record.

## Lincoln's Ancestors Made Iron.

A government report on the iron and steel industry says Abraham Lincoln's paternal ancestry was identified with the manufacture of iron in Massachusetts. The head of the American branch of his father's family, Samuel Lincoln, emigrated in 1637 from Norwich, England, to Massachusetts. Mordecai Lincoln, son of Samuel, born at Hingham on June 14, 1657, followed the trade of a blacksmith at Hull, from which place he removed to Scituate, where "he built a spacious house and was a large contributor toward the erection of the Ironworks at Bound Brook" in 1703. These works made wrought iron directly from the ore. Mordecai Lincoln had two sons, Mordecai, Jr., and Abraham, who settled in Berks county, Pa. Mordecai, Jr., was the great-grandfather of Abraham Lincoln.

## A Funny Numeral System.

The natives of Murray Island, Torres Strait, have a numeral system which is based on two numbers, netat, one, and neis, two. Above two they compute by composition—neis-netat, means three, neis 1 neis, two and two, four. Where they get above this figure they have recourse to different parts of the body, beginning with the little and other fingers of the left hand and going from there to the wrist, elbow, armpit, shoulder, etc., on the left side, and thence down the

## Harmony in House Furnishings.

Women would do well to give much thought to color harmony and circumstances rather than style when choosing house furnishings. Upon the harmonious blending of wall and floor covering, together with the woodwork, depends much of the success of the room; yet some woman, hearing that red walls "are the style," and seeing how effective a soft shade of it is with the pure black Flemish oak, straightway has it put on her walls to combine with yellow oak. How much better a gobelin blue burlap or cartridge paper would be! Then, too, often the mistake is made of having everything of one color to match, thereby causing monotony. Artistic decorators advocate old rose in rugs and hangings as a relieving contrasting bit to gobelin blue walls and yellow oak woodwork.—Chicago News.

## Which is the Nobler Animal?

A group of spectators stood in front of a cigar store near Seventh and Spruce streets last night and watched an intoxicated man being led home by a red setter dog. The man was almost helplessly drunk. He held the dog by a chain. Once in a while he would grab a lamppost and cling to it with one hand while he held the dog's chain by the other. The faithful, patient dog would sit down for a while and then would tug at the chain and arouse his inebriated master. "That's nothing new," remarked the center of the group at the cigar store; "that dog takes that young man home in that condition almost every Saturday night."—Philadelphia Record.

## France's Increase in Population.

France is proud of the increase in her population. The census figures for this year are 38,641,333, an increase in five years of 412,364. The increase in the preceding five-year period was only 133,819.

Etymologists declare that the sugar cane has 227 varieties of insect enemies.

## Saved the Little Bottles.

"I have a patient who is wonderfully considerate of my interests," said a prominent physician lately. "A few weeks ago he had malaria, and I prescribed quinine for him, giving him four-grain capsules, so that he might take the drug without discomfort. He came out of his attack and a few days later called to see me at my office. Judge of my surprise when he exhibited the empty capsules and said, 'Doctor, I thought you might like the little bottles, so I saved them and brought them back.' He had emptied each four-grain dose of the bitter powder, and then essayed the rather hopeless task of washing it down with water: I couldn't do otherwise than to take the 'little bottles' from him without a word and next time I'll give him quinine in another form."—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

## Takes Family in Balloon.

The archduke Leopold Salvator, who is considerably interested in aeronautics, recently made an ascent in his balloon, Meteor, accompanied by his wife and little seven-year-old daughter and Princess Theresa of Bavaria. The ascent was made in Vienna at about 10 o'clock in the morning, the Danube was crossed at about a height of 6,500 feet and the descent was safely accomplished some three hours later at Kornenburg. In Berlin a permanent international commission has been formed to promote ballooning, both in the interests of science and of sport.—Chicago News.

## A Remedy.

Citizen—I'd give a clean thousand to find some way to exterminate those sparrows. Sporting Friend—I'm your man. I've got just the thing. "Out with it." "Get the Legislature to pass a game law protecting them."

A remote period is the one due at the end of a woman's remarks. In the last century geese were raised in Russia and Poland in vast flocks, almost entirely for the sake of their quills.