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OLD IRONSIDES.

HISTORY OF ONE OF THE OLD SHIPS IN THE AMERICAN NAVY.

Dismantled in a Modern Navy Yard, She Is the Object of Profound Veneration on the Part of Patriotic People of To-day, Who Are Proud of Her.

Not many people may know that the old frigate Constitution, so renowned in our annals, is still included among the vessels of the navy. She is dismantled, as might be expected at her age, and is kept in that condition at Portsmouth, N. H. She is a craft of 2,200 tons displacement, and now carries no battery in place of the forty-four guns of the days of her glory.

It was the Constitution that, after the inauspicious opening on land of our war with Great Britain, eighty years ago, led off a series of splendid victories on the sea. The honor of the first capture of a British war vessel undoubtedly belongs to the Essex, Captain David Porter, whose defeat of the Alert occurred six days before the Constitution destroyed the Guerriere.

But the Essex carried thirty-two 32-pounders and the Alert only twenty 18-pounders, so that very soon after opening fire the crew of the little British craft, which, having captured one of our transports had made up to the Essex, taking her to be a merchantman, were compelled to quit their guns and within eight minutes to strike their flag. This conquest, though gratifying, was inevitable, whereas that of the Constitution was gained over a craft nearer her own size and strength.

But while yielding the laurels of priority to the gallant Essex on this score, the Constitution, under Captain Isaac Hull, can claim them again for success in a trial of seamanship between herself and a British squadron. Till then affairs were looking gloomy for us at sea as well as on land. The British frigate Belvidere, while convoying a fleet of merchantmen, had escaped from a whole squadron of our warships, whereas our Nautilus had struck to an English squadron, being the first warship captured on either side. Under these untoward circumstances the Constitution, returning from Europe, fell in with a British squadron led by the Africa, a 64-gun ship.

During four days she was chased by this squadron. Through calm and through breeze the flight and pursuit went on. At one time she had boats out towing her; at another her crew were hauling upon a kedge anchor that had been carried out and dropped a long distance ahead. On the fourth day the longed for wind came, and with every sail set the Constitution drew away from her pursuers, the scene when five frigates were standing on the same tack and the Constitution was showing her heels to her enemies being often recounted eighty years ago. Some of the historians describe this as the first of our triumphs on the sea in that war.

But in our time, of course, the fame of the Constitution is more familiarly associated with her capture of the Guerriere. It was on Aug. 19, 1812, that the two vessels met, both eager for a fight. The scene was off the coast of Massachusetts. The British craft, commanded by the gallant Dacres, was first to open fire, but Hull maneuvered his vessel into the right position before he replied. The enemy's mizzenmast soon went by the board, followed by her mainmast. When she struck she was, in fact, so completely used up that she could not be taken into port and had to be blown up.

The Constitution was superior in tonnage and complement, carried more guns and threw a much heavier weight of metal in her broadsides; still the vessels were near enough matched for the victory to produce a tremendous impression on both sides of the ocean. Alison describes the "shock of this unwonted naval disaster" in England, where the belief that Britannia ruled the waves was so profound that the American navy had seemed to be a mere mouthful for her.

That same year the Constitution, under Bainbridge, gained another great victory over the Java, off the coast of Brazil. The Java, like her predecessor, was a 38-gun ship, and in the battle she lost foremast and mizzenmast, besides a part of her bowsprit; while, to complete the parallel, like the Guerriere, she was so wrecked in the fight that she had to be blown up. It was a great exhibition of good seamanship and superior gunnery on the part of the American vessel; for, as Cooper says, "the Java had been literally picked to pieces by shot, spar following spar until she had not one left." Her loss in killed and wounded was very heavy.

Finally, in 1815, under command of Commodore Stewart, the famous old ship made a double capture of the British frigate Cyane and sloop Levant.

Old Ironsides, as she had come to be called during the war, was launched at Boston in 1797; and who knows but when the hundredth anniversary of that event comes around she may again be put into commission, so as to receive centennial honors?—New York Sun.

A Novel Use of Electric Fans.

The little electric motor and the swiftly revolving fan are familiar objects, and many a heated brow has been cooled by their combination. But the electric fan has recently found its way into a strange place, none other than the turrets of the powerful iron monitor Miantonomoh, where the company has placed four of its perfected fan outfits. These are not, as might be supposed, to cool off the gunners, but to blow away the smoke from the guns. This certainly is a novel use for the electric fan.—Electricity.

The Family Cake.

"You can't eat your cake and have it," said the wife to her complaining husband.

"And I can't eat yours and get rid of it," he replied, branching off into another division of domestic infelicity.—Detroit Free Press.

A Story of the Late A. T. Stewart.

I was a young lawyer at the time, about as poor as a home missionary. I had to go to the late A. T. Stewart's to take his signature to an affidavit. He signed and I swore him; then he wished to know how much there was to pay. In view of what took place afterward, I am justified, I think, in saying that what Mr. Stewart expected me to say when he asked "How much?" was "Oh, that's all right."

But I didn't say that; I said, "Seventy-five cents."

"What?" shouted Mr. Stewart.

"Seventy-five cents," I answered again.

"I won't pay it," said he. "You've no right to ask so much. The price is a shilling, and that's all I'll give you."

"But, Mr. Stewart," I replied, "a shilling is the price when you come to my office. I've come to your store and I've a right to charge for my car fare and a reasonable amount for my time. Seventy-five cents is really a very small charge, Mr. Stewart, a very small charge."

"I won't pay it," he persisted. "If you want a shilling you may have it, but not one cent more."

I got angry then. I gave him one look, with which I intended to convey the idea that I held him in contempt. Then I said: "Mr. Stewart, you are a poor man and I'm a rich one. Twenty-five cents is nothing to me and seventy-five cents is a fortune to you. I'll make you a present of that seventy-five cents that you owe me."

Then I made my best dancing school bow and walked off.—Interview in New York Times.

The Effectiveness of Modern Guns.

The prominence given to a lecture by the German doctor, Dr. Billroth, on the wounded in war, has induced Mr. Archibald Forbes to write on the subject. Dr. Billroth estimates that of the casualties at Weissenburg and Worth during the Franco-German war, 80 per cent. of all the wounded were caused by rifles, 15 per cent. by the large guns, and not quite 5 per cent. by the lance and sword. Mr. Forbes, however, says that the statistics for the whole of the war on the German side prove that over 90 per cent. were due to rifle fire, about 9 per cent. to artillery, and about 1 per cent. to cold steel.

The smallness of the mortality from the French artillery is explained by the fact that their artillery was notoriously badly served. Dr. Billroth believes that the future will see a still greater proportion of deaths resulting from rifle fire than from shell. Mr. Forbes points out that, in doing so, no account has been taken of the probable use of highly destructive explosives in the shells of the future.—Army and Navy Gazette.

The First Protestant in Japan.

The first Protestant Christian in Japan was one Murata, a military retainer of the Lord of Saga, in the southern island of Kiushin. In 1860 he went to Nagasaki, by order of his chief, and one evening, as he was crossing the harbor in a boat, he picked up a book that was floating about in the water. The writing ran from side to side, "like the crawling of crabs," and upon sending it to one of the Dutch then settled at Nagasaki, he learned that it was the Christian Bible, then a proscribed book. Curiosity spurred him on, and he had one of his assistants learn the language of the book and translate it for him, sentence by sentence.

His study was continued in secret, with a few friends, after his return home. When a difficult passage was found, a messenger was sent to Dr. Verbeck, a well known missionary then in Nagasaki, for its interpretation. Murata was afterward baptized, and his name now stands first on the roll of Protestant Christians in Japan.—London Times.

Women Taking the Places of Men.

In Holland men can no longer be trusted to work the switches on the railways, and women now fill their places. This is a slap in the face indeed to the male sex, and a great triumph to the advocates of female labor. But we have yet to see how the thing works. The men say that there will now be looking glasses in the switch boxes, and that the women will never leave them till they have smoothed their last hair and settled the bow of their last ribbon, and that in the meantime there will be collisions; that when left to themselves they never have been in time for the train as passengers, and will not be more punctual as pointswomen; and, finally, that if they hear their lover's whistle anywhere in the neighborhood they will pay very little attention to that of the locomotive. If these objections are not valid, conclude the men, "we are not Dutchmen."—London Queen.

An Old Fashioned Phrase.

There is an old fashioned phrase of hospitality which consists of only two words, and I find it a parallel to the Greek salutation, and like it, a command. "Sit by," says the comfortable New England farmer to his guest beneath his roof. Now compare this commanding phrase with the more modern polite question, "Will you partake of refreshments?" which is as empty and void as a Chinese invitation, and throws the choice of acceptance on the guest. One is the living soul of speech, the other a mere dead formality.—Detroit Free Press.

The Death of Christ.

In a book entitled "The Physical Causes of Christ's Death," the writer states that Christ died from a broken heart, so that, when the soldier pierced his side, blood and water flowed out, which whould have been an impossibility if no rupture had taken place.

The Wisdom of It.

Cora—Don't you think that law preventing one from marrying his deceased wife's sister was a very foolish one?

Merritt—On the contrary, I've always considered it a wise one, because there's seldom more than one pretty girl in a family.—New York Epoch.

How to Care for a Trotter.

When the horse comes in from his work rub him all over from his ears to his tail and down to his knees with wash as near the temperature of his body as possible. To make this wash take one part alcohol, two parts pure witch hazel and three or four times as much soft water as the combined quantity of alcohol and witch hazel. Every muscle should be rubbed thoroughly. Throw a medium weight blanket over the horse now, and let him stand until you have put the bandages on.

Use the same wash for the legs as for the body, but have it cold. After putting the wash on the legs, rub them well with the palm of the hand, always rubbing down, never up. Put the bandages on immediately after the rubbing. Rub all his heels perfectly dry with clean, dry rags. Care should be taken in this, as cracked heels are very stubborn and often lay a horse up for the season.

Throw the blanket' back from the head and scrape out all wash that remains, most of it will have entered the pores of the body; cover up his shoulders and scrape the rest of the body; take a clean, dry rag and rub him all over lightly, always rubbing with the hair as much as possible; now put a light hood on him and an extra blanket over his loins, and after looking at his heels again walk him out for about five minutes, then bring him in, and should he have broken out any while walking scrape him again lightly, after which give him another light rubbing for say four or five minutes, when he should again be walked for about ten minutes, and again taken in and rubbed slightly, after which put on lighter blankets and continue to reduce the weight as the heat leaves the body.—Rider and Driver.

A Cure for Laziness.

A traveler in the course of a morning walk in Amsterdam came upon a group gathered around a well, into which a strongly built man had just been let down. A pipe, whose mouth was at the top of the well, had been opened, and a stream of water from it was flowing into the well and gradually filling it. The man below had quite enough to do, if he did not want to be drowned, to keep the water out by means of a pump which was at the bottom of the well.

The traveler, pitying the man, asked for an explanation of what seemed to be a cruel, heartless joke.

"Sir," replied an old man standing near, "that fellow is, as you see, healthy and strong. I have myself offered him work twenty times, but he always allows laziness to get the better of him, and will make any excuse to beg his bread from door to door, though he might easily earn it if he chose.

"We are now trying to make him realize that he must work. If he uses the strength that is in his arms he will be saved; if he lets them hang idle he will be drowned. But look," continued the old Dutchman as he went to the edge of the well, "the fellow finds out that he has muscles already; in an hour we shall let him out with better resolutions for the future."

The traveler watched until the man was liberated from his watery prison, and felt sure that at least a temporary cure had been effected.—Youth's Companion.

One Man's Share.

The other day a politician of national prominence sat in "the amen corner," as it is called, of the Fifth Avenue hotel, where Republican big guns go in batteries. Across the corridor sat a keen eyed, swarthy life insurance agent. Presently a newspaper man, who makes his headquarters at the up town hotels entered and nodded familiarly to both politician and life insurance agent. They were both under obligations to him.

In the most natural way in the world, from talking to both at almost the same time, he introduced them. Soon afterward he strolled on. Now this particular life insurance agent had been watching for months for an opportunity of making the acquaintance of this particular politician. He was not slow to improve the opportunity, now that he had it, and he wrote a life policy of $25,000 as the result. The next day the journalist who so innocently introduced the hunter and his prey received by mail a check for $400. Now this shows a great many things—among others, the enormous profits life insurance agents must make when they can give such commissions.—John A. Cockerill in New York Recorder.

When Did the "Glass Age" Begin?

So far as research has been able to determine, glass was in use 2,000 years before the birth of Christ, and was even then not in its infancy by any manner of means. In the Slade collection at the British museum there is the head of a lion molded in glass, bearing the name of an Egyptian king of the eleventh dynasty. This is the oldest specimen of pure glass bearing anything like a date now known to exist. The invention now known as "bleezing," the mode of varnishing pottery with a thin film of glass, is believed to date back to the first Egyptian dynasty. Proof of this is found in the pottery beads, glass glazed, found in the tombs of the age above referred to.—St. Louis Republic.

Music That Is Seldom Sung.

The raising of an umbrella in the theater is a bad omen for the business. Where is the man of fearless heart who will sing the music of "Macbeth" or "Meg Merrilies" other than at the rehearsal or production of those plays? Should he attempt it he will be "sat down upon" in great shape and very hard by the other members of the company. Of all bad omens the singing of that music is among the worst.—Chicago Herald.

Robert Toombs' Advice.

A lawyer went to Robert Toombs and asked what he should charge a client in a case to which Mr. Toombs had just listened in the court house. "Well," said Toombs, "I should charge $1,000, but you ought to have $5,000, for you did a great many things that I would not have done."—Exchange.

PLACES OF WORSHIP.

CATHOLIC.—St. Paul's Church. ak, between Fifth and Sixth. Father Carney, Pastor Services: Mass at 8 and 10:30 A. M. Sunday School at 2:30, with benediction.

CHRISTIAN.—Corner Locust and Eighth Sts Services morning and evening. Elder A Galloway pastor Sunday School 10 a. M.

EPISCOPAL.—St Luke's Church, corner Third and Vine. Rev H B. Burgess pastor Services: 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday School at 2:30 P. M.

GERMAN METHODIST.—Corner Sixth St and Granite. Rev. Hirt, Pastor. Services: 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday School 10:30 A. M.

PRESBYTERIAN.—Services in new church, corner Sixth and Granite sts. Rev. J. T. Baird, pastor. Sunday-school at 9:30; Preaching at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.
The Y. P. S. C. E. of this church meets every Sabbath evening at 7:15 in the basement of the church. All are invited to attend these meetings.

FIRST METHODIST.—Sixth St., betwen Main and Pearl, Rev L. F. Britt, D. D. pastor. Services: 11 A. M. 8:00 P. M. Sunda School 9:30 A. M. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening.

GERMAN PRESBYTERIAN.—Corner Main and Ninth. Rev Witte, pastor. Services usual hours. Sunday school 9:30 A. M.

SWEEDISH CONGREGATIONAL.—Granite, between Fifth and Sixth.

COLORED BAPTIST.—Mt. Olive, ak, between Tenth and Eleventh Rev. A. Boswell, pastor. Services 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION—Rooms in Waterman block, Main street. Gospel meeting, for men only, every Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Rooms open week days from 8:30 a. m., to 9:30 p. m.

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Perhaps you are run down, can't eat, can't sleep, can't think, can't do anything to your satisfaction, and you wonder what ails you. You should heed the warning, you are taking the first step into nervous prostration. You need a nerve tonic and in Electric Bitters you will find the exact remedy for restoring your nervous system to its normal, healthy condition. Surprising results follow the use of this great Nerve Tonic and Alterative. Your appetite returns, good digestion is restored, and the liver and kidneys resume healthy action. Try a bottle. Price 50c, at F. G. Fricke & Co's drugstore. 6

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Fort Sidney is to have a new detachment of troops, the twenty-first infatry being ordered to New York forts,

A Little Girl's Experience in a Lighthouse.

Mr. and Mrs. Loren Trescott are keepers of the Gov. Lighthouse at Sand Beach Mich, and are blessed with a daughter, four years. Last April she taken down with Measles, followed with dreadful Cough and turned into a fever. Doctors at home and at Detroit treated, but in vain, she grew worse rapidly, until she was a mere "handful of bones". —Then she tried Dr. King's New Discovery and after the use of two and a half bottles, was completely cured. They say Dr. King's New Discovery is worth its weight in gold, yet you may get a trial bottle free at F. G. Frickey Drugstore.

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As well as the handsomest, and others are invited to call on any druggist and get free a trial bottle of Kemp's Balsam for the Throat and Lungs, a remedy that is selling entirely upon its merits and is guaranteed to relieve and cure chronic and acute coughs, asthma, bronchitis and consumption. Large bottles 50c and $1.

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The B. & M. will sell round trip tickets for one fare to Hot Springs, Arkansas, on the following occasions: Meeting of the Government Reservation Improvement association, April 12. Tickets will be sold April 7 and 8, inclusive; final return limit, May 10.

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Annual meeting general assembly of the Southern Presbyterian church, May 19. Tickets will be sold May 16 and 17, inclusive; limit to return, June 15.

For further information inquire at ticket office. F. LATHAM, Agt.