WHAT OUR ATTACK ON SPAIN'S COAST MEANS.

A Naval Officer Points Out Numerous American Precedents—Coming Expedition is in Line with Many Brilliant Achievements.

Shortly after the breaking out of this war of ours with Spain a flying squadron, under the command of Commodore Schley, was formed. The suggestion was made at that time that this squadron proceed to the Mediterranean, capture Port Mohon, on Minorca, one of the Belearic islands, and, using that well known harbor as a base, proceed to ravage the coasts of the kingdom.

A somewhat similar plan is about to be adopted, and, though the details differ somewhat from those originally suggested, the idea underlying the scheme is practically the same. It is to carry the war into Spain, so as to impress upon the people of that benighted kingdom that there is really a serious, dangerous war being fought against them, that they are powerless to oppose it, and that, unless they would suffer dire disaster, they would better sue for peace, and be quick about it, too.

A very powerful squadron is the one our navy department will dispatch to "singe the beard of the king of Spain"—though that the unfortunate young boy king has not yet grown his beard will not prevent his feeling the warmth of the shot of our guns. It is commanded by Commodore John Crittenden Watson, a man who is devoid of the sense of fear, who is bold to a fault, and who will take any risk unhesitatingly. Watson was Farragut's flag lieutenant off New Orleans, Mobile, Vicksburg and Port Hudson. He knows well the music of the cannon ball and the din of battle, and, while he is a thorough Christian gentleman, full of Christian virtues, he relishes shooting and being shot at.

This determination to wage war about the distant coasts of a foreign enemy's country, and over which he claims sovereignty is not new in our history. Repeatedly have we made attacks upon the coasts, the commerce and the ships of an enemy, and victory has invariably crowned our efforts.

The first American vessel of war to show the stars and stripes abroad was the sixteen gun brig Reprisal, commanded by Lieutenant Lambert Wilkes and the first time the flag was ever floated over a foreign fortress was a little later, when the brig Providence ceptured Fort Nassau on the island of New Providence. The Providence carried twenty-two guns, and sailed in squadron from the Delaware to attack a British force then ravaging the coasts of Virginia. Admiral Hopkins, an energetic officer, was the commander-in-chief, and, not finding the enemy, he steered for New Providence, in the Bahamas. He captured the place and destroyed many stores. It is peculiarly interesting in this connection to note that "Hopkins' landing party consisted of about three hundred men, and on this occasion, the first that ever occurred in the regular American navy, the marines, under the command of Captain Nichols, appear to have behaved with the spirit and readiness that have distinguished the corps from that hour down to the present moment."

Paul Jones, that redoubtable old warrior who never wearied in doing deeds of extraordinary daring, accomplished no less a feat than taking the American man-of-war Ranger, a slow, cranky vessel of eighteen guns, into the port of Whitehaven. He seized forts, spiked the guns and then boarded a ship and set fire to it. This one man terrrorized the coast, paralyzed trade and set all the people into a state of trepidation lest he return and worse befall them. Something akin to this feeeling of dread alarm, of constant fear, is what Commodore Watson will inspire in the breasts of the Spaniards when they see the fine ships standing in toward their ports firing shot and shell and then hastening away to some other haven to repeat the same performance.

Captain Wickes, with the Reprisal and a couple of other ships, made a tour of the coast of Ireland in 1777, going about his work of capturing prizes and seizing everything about his size he could lay hands on, in much the same way Paul Jones did, and very much the same way we trust Commodore Watson will do when he reaches his cruising ground.

Of Conyngham, another one of those daredevils of the seas, Commissioner Deane reported: "Conyngham by his first and second expeditions is become the terror of all the eastern coast of England and Scotland." This bold navigator commanded the Revenge. He was searched for high and low, but disguising his ship he not only went into an English port unrecognized, but actually fitted out his ship there without detection. Of course, Commodore Watson could not possibly hope to be able to do such an astonishing bit of work as this. The Tripoli war furnishes many examples of bold raiding by ships and of great, even astonishing, personal bravery. Decatur's cutting out of the Philadelphia from under the guns of the Tripolitan forts was an act in many ways similar to Hobson's taking the Merrimac into Santiago.

A famous cruise far away from home was that of Captain Porter in the Essex. For months this resourceful commander cruised in the Pacific, carrying on his work of destruction and depredation. He drove the English flag off the seas, but was finally captured off Valparaiso by a superior force and under circumstances not discreditable to him.

In 1821 the West Indies were the favorite cruising grounds of the French and Spanish picaroons. These men in the sea were freebooters—pirates in other words. They plundered and lootoed merchant vessels, and often murdered the crews. Our government determined to stop it, and a fleet of men-of-war under the well known commanders, Biddle, Porter and Warrington, routed them out and hunted them to the death.

Another action in an opposite quarter of the world occurred in 1831, when Commodore John Downes landed his men on the soil of Sumatra and captured all the forts of the port but one, and this one his ship the Potomac, battered down the next day. Even so long ago as this our ships were engaged in attacking forts. Doubtless the eastern squadron [illegible] Tarifa, Ferrol and Cadiz, Barcelona [illegible] other ports will have an opportunity to try its guns at silencing forts—though the modern fortification cannot be so easily injured by a modern gun as was the case when Downs attacked the Malays.

Yet again must we recall that the stars and stripes have waved triumphantly over foreign foes in foreign waters; this time the place is China, not so very far from the scene of Admiral Dewey's magnificent, smashing victory. In 1856 the Canton barrier forts were destroyed by the Portsmouth and Levant. A desperate defence was made, but the Americans would not keep back. The capture of the forts led to a termination of the war and the formation of a treaty of amity and commerce. Such an end to crown Commodore Watson's coming would be glorious and desirable.

[illegible]osa and Corea were threatened by squadrons in 1867 and 1879, but [illegible]agements of our ships were not of importance, though sufficient to bring about a speedy and satisfactory solution of the difficulties.

The object to be gained by despatching Commodore Watson and his ships to the coasts and waters of the kingdom of Spain is the same as in the case of Formosa and Corea, and in arrangements elsewhere the world over—to bring about peace and to cause the flag and authority of the United States to be respected. We demand [illegible]ity from Spanish rule in the West [illegible]s and security from Spain on the seas.

If the mere showing of the flag will bring about these results so much the better; if ports must be terror zed it will be a pity; if places must be bombarded and captured it will appear almost a sin, for Spain must yield, and we must make her yield—peacefully if we can, forcibly if we must.

Not all From West Point.

(New York Herald.)

To the Editor: Is the Mr. Poultney Bigelow who is rampaging in your columns every now and then the same gentleman of whom we saw it stated just after the war was declared by the United States against Spain that he was leaving England to offer his services as a cavalryman in our army? On his arrival here did he offer his services?

If so, were they rejected? And has he found this rejection cause sufficient to justify him in his attacks upon every one who has charge of the conduct of the war?

Or is he one of those who believe with Richelieu (according to Bulwer) that "the pen is mightier than the sword?" And does he think (with a chaplain of one of the regiments that did not go to the front with it because he thought he could do more good by fighting their enemies at home than by giving them the consolation of religion when they required it, or by setting them an example of a pius life in camp) that with his pen he can slash more effectually than he could with a sabre?

We recall to Mr. Bigelow's attention that the above quotation from Richelieu is preceded by the qualification "in the hands of men entirely great." Whence does he derive how an army should be called into existence, disciplined, maneuvered or used? and if he has no knowledge or experience of what value is his criticism?

But, above all, what excuse can he give for showing an ignorance of history of which any boy in one of the higher classes of the public schools would be ashamed? Has the time ever been, will it ever be, in this country, when appointments for office, except as regards high grades in the navy, have not been governed by political necessity or in furtherance of political schemes? Who were the generals and other field officers whom President Polk appointed under the act authorizing the increase of the army during the Mexican war? How many of them were whigs? And, in later days, how many generals and other field officers and subordinates did President Lincoln through pulls and policy appoint who did not know the difference between a pruning hook and a sabre? A list of them would fill a page.

Mr. Bigelow, says: "The Mexican war, which was the most brilliant campaign of its kind in military history, was conducted by graduates of West Point." Will he name those officers. Will he mention subordinate officers who distinguished themselves more than Shields, P. S. Smith, Butler, of Kentucky; Quitman of Mississippi, or Pillow (even if the latter did dig his ditch on the wrong side of his fortification)? Which of these officers was graduated from West Point? And General Winfield Scott, did he graduate from West Point? He was a practicing lawyer in Virginia when he was appointed captain of artillery. He probably never saw the Point until after the battles of Chippewa and Lundy's Lane.

And General Taylor? He was a Kentucky backwoodsman when he was appointed first lieutenant in the Seventh infantry, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of his brother, who held that rank in the army. At that time he knew nothing more of literature than enabled him to read and write.

Did any West Pointer distinguish himself more than these two generals did in Mexico? Did any American general ever achieve a greater victory than General Taylor achieved over General Santa Ana at Buena Vista?

No disparagement to Grant, Lee, Sherman, Beauregard, Sheridan, Stonewall Jackson, Beauregard and a host of other graduates of West Point whose illustrious deeds will live in story so long as history is read. No [illegible]agement either to the academy at West Point. No other country [illegible] more accomplished soldiers. At the same time, do not slight those who, though not graduates of that institution, have yet carried our flag gallantly in the very front of [illegible].

Above all, do not too lightly estimate the power and manhood of our volunteers. They may not march with the mathematical precision of soldiers who have long been drilled by experts in the profession; they may growl at delay, grumble at their necessarily improvised camp; but rest assured, Mr. Bigelow, that when they meet the Spanish soldiers on the soil of Cuba they will stand as firm and fight as successfully as their forefathers did at Buena Vista. M. S.

500 Bullets to Kill One Man.

It is perhaps, little consolation to men who are going into battle to know that of every 500 bullets which they face only one or two will result in death. The fact, however, is eloquent of an immense waste of ammunition and want of care or skill in firing.

Of the 45,000,000 bullets fired by the Russians during the Crimean war, 44,950,000 failed to fulfill their errand of death, and were, for practical purposes of destruction, wasted. The remaining 48,000 alone, which could have easily been fired by a single regiment within the space of an hour, found their billet. This means that 910 bullets were fired before a single soldier of the allied troops was killed.

The British in the same war were more fortunate in their aim. Of 15,000,000 bullets fired, 21,000 were fatal; one bullet out of every 700 fired thus accounting for one Russian.

The French soldiers, it is estimated, fired 29,000,000 bullets, which resulted in the death of 51,000 Russians, or at the rate of one fatal bullet to every 590 shots fired.

During the Franco-German war, says Tit-Bits, the German artillery fired 340,000 shots, and the infantry 20,000,000. This terrible hail of shot and bullets, sufficient to exterminate a nation, resulted in a loss of 80,000 men to the French. Thus every Frenchman killed involved an expenditure of bullets enough to kill a quarter of a regiment.

"No, sir," said the congressman with the lay-down collar and the large feet, "the idea of taking charge of these tropical islands is utterwly impracticable."

"But it would add to our wealth and power and be the means of broadening the influence of our institutions."

"I don't care. The agricultural department is having trouble enough now keepin' the farmers posted on weevils and Canada thistles. I don' know where we'd be if they had to go to work and educate the masses in raisin' mangoes and bread-fruit trees an' things like them."

It is said to be no uncommon occurrence on the new Siberian railway for fuel or water to give out. In the latter case a halt is made and snow collected and melted until enough water is provided for proceeding to the next station.

Boston's water pipes are infested by eil—hundreds and thousands of them—and the water board is at its wits' ends to devise some means to get rid of them. They go through the strainers when young and small and grow to great size, obstructing the flow of water or stopping it altogether.

FRESH FOOD FOR SAILORS.

Every day is market day in the navy now that we have refrigerating ships to keep the vessels of the fleet supplied with fresh meats and vegetables.

This is the pleasant manner in which Paymaster General Edwin Stewart opened up an interesting conversation on the subject of refrigerating ships in the United States navy.

"Refrigerating ships," said he, "are among the most valuable additions to our modern navy. With the aid of these floating cold storage compartment ships the system of feeding a ship's company has been practically revolutionized. We are now able to keep the officers and men of Admiral Sampson's fleet supplied with fresh meats and vegetables and plenty of ice. When you keep Jack supplied with nutritious and palatable food you improve his health and put him in condition to battle against Spain or any foe of the United States."

The Celtic is the newest and the best equipped refrigerating ship in the navy. When she joined Admiral Sampson's fleet off Santiago she was loaded with 300,000 pounds of fresh beef and mutton, 300,000 pounds of fresh vegetables and 456 tons of ice.

"The Celtic, as we now call her," said Paymaster General Stewart, "was formerly the Austrian trader Celtic King. When we bought her we cut off the King's head, and left the Celtic remaining. She was fitted out at the Brooklyn navy yard, and she is a model ship of her type.

"She was the phantom fleet of Spanish warships that frightened the innocents at Hampton Roads Monday a week ago," and the jolly little paymaster general fairly shook with laughter as he recalled the consternation reported from Hampton Roads when it was said that several mysterious looking ships, supposed to be Spanish warships, were sighted off the capes.

She was safely convoyed, for she carries no battery. She has a capacity of about 1,200 tons of freight. She [illegible] her refrigerating compartments. She can steam about eleven knots comfortably, and her tonnage is [illegible] 506. Her captain is Commander [illegible] B. [illegible] Mansfield, and the supplies are in charge of Paymaster William J. [illegible]ent, including Thompson. Her full complement [illegible] eighty officers and men [illegible] from the souls. The crew is made [illegible]. The refrigerating apparatus [illegible] South Carolina naval reserve [illegible] $60,000, but [illegible]perature of it is so complete that a [illegible]tained in the 10 degrees can be [illegible] and month out. compartment month [illegible]rtments in the There are three compartments in the ship, which refrigerating section [illegible] the engine rooms, is located forward [illegible] fresh meats, in In one are stored [illegible] vegetables, and the second the [illegible] with ice. She was the third is filled [illegible] for 6,000 men which loaded with supplies [illegible] three months. ought to last at [illegible]

When I asked General Stewart if the Celtic flies a [illegible]al pennant," which is red, to indicate the nature of her business, he replied good naturedly:

"She does not need any distinguishing pennant. She is expected long before she arrives and the ships of the fleet are on the lookout for her. She flies the ordinary naval pennant and the Stars and Stripes at the peak. Her visit among the ships of the fleet might be likened to a huckster peddling his provisions through the streets. Only the supply ship does not go from one ship to another when the squadron is close together. The regulations provide that fresh provisions shall be served to the various ships of Admiral Sampson's fleet three times a week. Every sailor knows the days of the week he is to eat fresh grub, and so do the cooks of the various messes. When the supply ship with her fresh grub appears on the scene it is customary for her to report by signal to the flagship. Signals are then exchanged with the various ships in the fleet, and they are notified to send their stewards off to the supply ship to draw their legal allowance of fresh rations for their respective ships.

"Each man is entitled by law to one and one-quarter pounds of fresh meat and the same quantity of fresh vegetables. These supplies are delivered upon the presentation of the properly certified requisition. There is no limit put upon the allowance of ice. Many of the modern ships have the apparatus for manufacturing their own ice, and therefore those ships do not draw upon the ice supply of the Celtic.

"Refrigerating ships are a new departure in the navy, for we have had no occasion to use them in recent years until war was declared with Spain. In times of peace the various ships run into friendly ports and take on fresh provisions as often as circumstances will permit. Of course that is regulated at the discretion of the commanding officer. Thus far not a word of complaint has been heard from the navy though the navy has been actively engaged in war for more than two months."

The paymaster general of the navy occupies a position similar to that of the quartermaster's and subsistence departments of the army combined, which have come in for so much unjust criticism lately. It is gratifying to the navy to know that no complaints have come up from the sea about the lack of food and clothing, although the officers and men of the navy have been under severe tests of endurange in the tropical regions of Cuba.

As soon as the North Atlantic squadron was ordered to Cuban waters, Paymaster General Stewart secured the former American liner Illinois and converted her into a refrigerating ship. She was rechristened the Supply, and she sails under that name now. She is with Admiral Sampson's fleet, where she has been steadily distributing fresh meats and provisions three times a week. She is to be relieved by the Celtic and ordered back to New York, where she will be refitted and sent out again.

While Admiral Sampson and his men are enjoying fresh meat and fresh provisions three times a week, the brave Admiral Dewey and his shipmates at Manila are not being forgotten. At this moment a refrigerating ship, secured in Australia, is bound for Manila, carrying 200,000 pounds of mutton, 400,000 pounds of beef and 600,000 pounds of fresh vegetables. As soon as word was received in Washington of Dewey's victory in Manila, negotiations were started for securing swift sailing ships to carry supplies to the victorious Americans. The City of Peking was chartered and sent to the rescue of Dewey and his men. The principal supplies sent by that vessel were arms and ammunition.

The pay department realized that small stores, including soap and tobacco, would be needed, and took the precaution to send a goodly supply on the City of Peking. One of the first official communications received from Dewey after his great victory contained a request for a supply of soap and tobacco. This request was received two weeks after the supplies had been forwarded by the first ship sent to the relief of the brave boys at Manila.

By thus anticipating the wants of Dewey's men with regard to soap and tobacco, General Stewart gladdened the hearts of many a "Jack" and enabled the latter to go on "shifting his quid" with usual regularity.

It is true the sailors aboard our warships do not live on a food supply such as might be expected in some of our swell hotels in New York, but there is a vast improvement in the quality and the quantity of the food served out to the "Jackies" in the navy of today as compared with what they received twenty years ago. Of course there is the regulation "salt horse," noted on the ration list as corned beef. Then there are festive pork and beans and the jaw breaking hard tack, which is boiled down into bread scouse. The ancient combination of canned beef and mutton, known to sailors as "soup and boully," has given place to the best of meats and canned vegetables, served on days when fresh provisions are not on the ship's menu.

NEW ARMY SURGERY.

How Wounds on the Battlefield Are Now Treated--Improved Mnthods Greatly Reduce Mortality.

The many injuries resultin[g f]rom [bec]ause modern weapons of war sho[w]eated great mortality were they [i]n which antiseptically. The extent[,] cases, tissues are impaired in [r]egion following the violent phenomena of unavoidable lowing upon traumatism [vari]ous infecable contagion due to [t]issues are tious agencies to which army sursubjected, impose upon most uncomgeon the duty of be[...]of antisepsy promising in the ma[...]orbid germs and elimination of a[...] from the wounded [...]e made by the

Every effort sh[ould] disinfect wounds. surgeon to complet[e] constant aim of Such has been [...] since the era of every army sur[...] though occasions antiseptics, and numerous in which have not been [...]y could be applied. the new dis[...] ample opportunity for there has be[...] usefulness in the battle field. A[...] of the antiseptic method in arm[...] operated on Roumanian demonstrati[...] figures will suffice for an appreci[...]rgery. Bergmann and Reyher, [...] give eloquent results. battle f[...]-seven knee wounds treat-

Out [...] hours after the engagement ed se[...]ly disinfected. Bergman recorded but [...] per cent of recoveries and 45 per [...] of deaths, whereas Hantzel gi[...] 1.5 per cent of deaths for cases by the conservative method t[...]ut antisepsy. In other tables, out [...]teen cases of fractured knee, Bergmann states that fourteen of the wounded survived, two after amputation. Only one died—i. e., a mortality of 6.6 per cent.

The tables presented by Reyher, who also opefated in the Roumanian field hospitals, are still more encouraging. Thirteen flesh wounds, principally in the thigh, primarily treated by the antiseptic method, resulted in one death, or a mortality of 7.6 per cent, whereas that mortality was 21.4 per cent, or six deaths out of twenty-eight cases treated secondarily by the antiseptic method. Similarly, out of forty-six cases of gunshot wound in the knee primarily treated with antiseptics, there were six deaths, or a mortality of 13 per cent, whereas 78 cases treated secondarily resulted in forty-eight deaths, or a mortality of 61.5 per cent. Again fractures caused by projectiles, treated primarily by the antiseptic method, were followed by four deaths, or a mortality of 18.1 per cent, whereas the proportion was 25.3 per cent, with twenty-three deaths out of sixty-five cases where the antiseptic method was applied secondarily.

These figures prove the importance of immediate application of antisepsy, seeing that in the cases treated antiseptically, but more or less after the event, the mortality was 61.5 per cent, or nearly the same as in cases where the method was not applied (62 per cent). This verdict is not, however, final, as every day experience shows that the judicious use of antisepsy may yield good results even long after the infliction of a wound.

Reyher's tables are more encouraging when considered from the point of view of mortality by infection. Deaths from pyaemia, or septic phlegmon, are distributed as follows: Out of 17 cases of articular resection antiseptically treated from the outset, there was 1 death, or 5.2 per cent; out of 13 cases of simple amputation, 1 death, or 7.6 per cent; out of 22 cases of gunshot fracture, 2 deaths, 9 per cent; out of 27 cases of articular gunshot wounds, 1 death, 3.7 per cent. Average mortality, 6.1 per cent.

The results for cases treated antiseptically in the secondary period are: Out of 65 cases of gunshot fracture there were 13 deaths, or 20 per cent; out of 78 cases of articular gunshot wounds there were 23 deaths—that is, 41.3 per cent, or an average mortality of 32.1 per cent.

Lastly, for flesh wounds, the same surgeon found 12 cases treated antiseptically from the start all recovered, and 28 cases treated secondarily resulted in 5 deaths, or a mortality of 21.4 per cent.

These results speak for themselves. They are all the more conclusive since they were obtained at a time when antisepsy had not been properly developed and medical equipments in this respect were deficient.

The above examples sufficiently prove the value of the antiseptic method on the battlefield. Now comes the question—What is the limit of delay in dressing a wound by this method with reasonable prospects of success? The figures quoted above show the great difference between its primary and secondary application. Is there a period which must not be exceeded? Volkmann and Koenig declare that twelve hours is the limit; Koehler goes up to twenty-four hours. These limits are certainly too narrow. It must not be forgotten that if a wound is contaminated from the outset the contamination remains localized for a long time. Even in 1870 Bilroth, with rare sagacity, demonstrated in his surgical letters on the hospitals of Mannheim and Wissemburg that septic complications of wounds received in war do not occur till a certain time after the event.

Without knowing Machnikoff's theory, he said that the inflammation set up in the blood vessels played a considerable part in this preservation. And this, in fact, must be so. From the very outset the irritation caused by traumatism brings out the white corpuscles, which prevent the invasion of the system by virulent germs. The eschars caused by traumatism are also barrier to infection. This will take place only when the white corpuscles, called phagosytes, are exhausted to the point of being unable any longer to destroy infectious germs, and when the eschars, becoming prematurely detached, leave the door open to the irruption of virulent agents into the circulation.

Such are the arguments which speak in behalf of the success of the antiseptic method, even after an extended period has elapsed since the infliction of a wound. It is crtain in such a case that if by washings and careful disinfection the number and virulence of the germs are diminished, there is a good chance of avoiding infection.

These views are confirmed by the opinions of many army surgeons. Von Hahn in particular, who was able to save the wounded of Plevna and Ralowa from septicaemia and erysipelas after three to five days' transport by a solution of phenic acid. Other Prussian army surgeons claim to have obtained the same results by cauterization with nitric acid. These assertions must not be generalized to the extent of believing that all wounds will escape infection. Although secondary antosepsy is not to be neglected, it is the primary form which alone affords good chances of success. Hence everything must be done to assure its rigorous application. The army medical staff with the fighting line must therefore be numerous and well equipped with antiseptic material.

Although the antiseptic method may not completely do away with infection of wounds received in battle, it will, at all events, make it extremely rare. Thanks to it, surgery will be of an essentially life saving order. It is no longer a question of waiting with folded arms while nature does her work, and aiding her only with proper diet and regular dressings. The enemy must be actively fought—here by going deep to stop a hemorrhage, there by taking away sequestra which are dangerous; again by cleansing the furrows, however profound they may be, or by suturing impaired organs, which formerly could not have been touched.

This militant surgery can now undertake anything, thanks to the antiseptic method, and although the tissues must be edalt with parsimoniously, they should not be spared when there is no hope of their healing or danger of their arresting recovery of the whole organism.

Except in rare cases such as complete destruction of important arteries amputation should not be resorted to. On the other hand, arthrotomy, incisions in the fractured region, ablation of sequestra, taking care to leave all that may be still adherent, and drainage of the joints are operations that are perfectly justifiable.

Probing a wound must be avoided except when absolutely necessary. Except when the exploration is very deep the finger is the best mans for sounding, and for this purpose the wound can be enlarged to admit of easy manipulation. Of course, care must be taken before each operation of this sort to thoroughly cleanse the hands with brush, sublimate and alcohol.

Before making ligatures of arteries the wound must be enlarged. It will give excellent results in combination with rigidity and through antisepsy to prevent the suppuration, which might release the ligatures. In this way secondary hemorrhages will be less frequent.

Thanks to antisepsy, army surgery will henceforth be able to intervene in wounds that hitherto have been too difficult of treatment, such as those of the cranium, thorax and abdomen.

To Prevent Cruelty to Mothers.

(From the Woman's Signal.)

"Can you help me a few minutes, Marion?"

"I should like to, but I don't see how I can." The tone was not impatient, but hurried. "I have this essay to finish for the society this evening. I must go to our French history class in an hour, then to a guild meeting, and get back to my German lesson at 5 o'clock."

"No, you can't help me, dear. You look worn out yourself. Never mind, if I tie up my head perhaps I can finish this."

"Through at last," said Marion, wearily, giving a finishing touch to "The Development of Religious Ideas Among the Greeks," at the same time glancing quickly at the clock. Her attention was arrested by a strange sight. Her tired mother had fallen asleep over her sewing. That was not surprising, but the startled girl saw bending over her mother's face, two angels, each looking earnestly at the sleeper.

"What made that weary look on this woman's face?" asked the stern, strange-looking angel of the weaker, sadder one. "Has God given her no daughters?"

"Yes, but they have no time to help her."

"No time?" cried the other. "What are they doing with all the time I am allowing them?"

"Well,'" replied the Angel of Life, "I keep their hands and hearts full. They are affectionate daughters, much admired for their good works; but they do not know they are letting the one they love most slip from my arms into yours. Those gray hairs come from overwork and anxiety to save money for music and French lessons. Those pale cheeks faded while the girls were painting roses and pansies."

The dark angel frowned.

"Young ladies must be accomplished now," exclaimed the other. "Those eyes grew dim sewing for the girls, to give them time to study ancient history and modern languages; those wrinkles came because the girls had not time to share the cares and worry of everyday life. That sigh comes because their mother feels neglected and lonely while the girls are working for the women of India; that tired look comes from getting up too early, while the poor exhausted girls are trying to sleep back the late hours they gave to study or spent at the concert; those feet are so weary because of their ceaseless walk."

"Surely the girls can help her, too?"

"What they can. But their feet get weary enough going around begging for the hospital and the church, and hunting up the poor and the sick."

"No wonder," said the Angel of Death, "so many mothers call me. This is indeed sad—loving, industrious girls giving their mother to my care as soon as selfish, wicked ones."

"Ah, the hours are so crowded," said Life, wearily. "Girls who are cultured or take an active part in life have no time to take care of the mother who spent so much in bringing them up."

"Then I must place my seal on her brow," said the Angel of Death, bending over the sleeping woman.

"No, no!" cried Marion, springing from her seat. "I will take care of her if you will only let her stay."

"Daughter, you must have the nightmare. Wake up, dear. I fear you have missed your history class."

"Never mind, mamma, I am not going today. I am rested now, and I will make those buttonholes while you curl up on the sofa and take a nap. I'll send word to the guild professor that I must be excused today, for I am going to see to supper myself and make some of those muffins you like."

"But, dear, I dislike to take your time."

"Seeing you have never given me any time! Now, go to sleep, mamma dear, as I did, and do not worry about me. You are of more consequence than all the languages or classics in the world."

So, with a tender kiss from her daughter—usually too busy for such demonstrations—Mrs. Hensen fell into a sweet, restful sleep.

"I see we might have lost the best of mothers in our mad rush to be educated and useful in this hurrying, restless day and generation," soliloquized Marion, as she occasionally stole a glimpse at the sleeping mother. "After this, only what time she does not need I shall devote to outside work and study. Until she gets well restored, I will take charge of the house and give up all the societies except one—that I'll have by myself if the other girls will not join—a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Mothers."

And Marion kept her word. A few months later one of the Women's Progressive league members said to her: "We miss your bright essays so much, Miss Marion. You seem to have lost all your ambition to be highly educated. You are letting your sisters get ahead of you, I fear. How young your mother looks to have grown daughters! I never saw her looking so well!"

Then Marion felt rewarded for being a member of what she calls the 'S. P. C. M.'

Representative John Allen, who has "had much experience with army rations and the want of them," made an observation during his speech on cheese the other day before the House that should not be allowed burial in the Congressional Record without some notice from the world at large. After displaying before his colleagues on the floor the various components of the army ration Representative Allen proceeded to say that when he was a soldier that ration "cooked as we knew how to cook would have furnished a feast more tempting than any that could be set before me now at Delmonico."

With a warning that good soldiers should not be coddled too much, Representative Allen said that he "had not been real hungry since the war without craving hardtack and bacon. A man with a good appetite who is really hungry," added Mr. Allen, "who can get some hardtack or bakers bread and a piece of bacon, put a stick through it, hold it over a fire and broil it, and drip the grease on his bread and eat it has what is to me a very good repast if he can get enough of it. When I get hungry, as I have many a time, I think much more about broiled or fried bacon and bread than I do about terrapin and champagne or lobster a la Newberg or punch a la Romani." (Laughter and great applause.)

REAR ADMIRAL STANTON ON SCHLEY'S FIGHT.

Veteran of the Navy Analyzes the Victory Over Cervera, Showing Superiority of the American Fighters.

Admiral Oscar F. Stanton, U. S. N., retired, one of the best known and ablest tacticians and naval strategists in this country, has given the first authentic and authorized explanation of just what occurred off Santiago de Cuba last Sunday, when Commodore Winfield Scott Schley, with the vessels under his command, so gloriously succeeded in destroying all the Spanish vessels under Admiral Cervera's command.

The veteran naval expert, in giving his views, has taken as a basis the best unofficial reports of the battle printed thus far.

The admiral is thoroughly familiar with every minute detail of the art of war, and were he not on the retired list of the navy, he would today be occupying one of the most important posts in the gift of the navy department.

Admiral Stanton is particularly well qualified to explain and criticise the manner in which Cervera lost his fine vessels and at the same time Spain her naval prestige. Not only has Admiral Stanton been off Santiago, but he has sailed around the island of Cuba on various occasions. While in command of the flagship Tennessee, and while chief of staff to Admiral James E. Jouett ("Fighting Jim"), Admiral Stanton spent considerable time in the harbors of Cuba.

At the outbreak of the war with Spain Admiral Stanton was the first officer to be assigned to shore duty by Secretary Long of the navy, and today the Admiral commands the naval station at New London, Conn.

Admiral Stanton explained in the beginning that he could speak only from what has been printed in the newspapers.

"That the Merrimac did not block the channel completely is understood," said Admiral Stanton. "We know from reports made public some time ago that there was deep water at both bow and stern of the Merrimac. The Vesuvius, it has been reported, succeeded in steaming clean around the wreck some nights ago. We don't know as yet which side of the channel was chosen by the Spanish admiral in making his exit.

"According to the reports printed, we are given to understand that the Spanish warships, after passing clear of Morro, headed in a westerly direction at once. I don't believe this is correct. My recollection is that the water directly to the west of the mouth of the harbor is rather shallow. On the other side (the Morro side) the water is very deep. The high bluff would explain that.

"When I was first off Santiago, in 1858, on the Constellation, we hove to outside and sent a boat inside. We did not enter the harbor proper at that time on account of sickness.

"I mention this in order to explain what I believe to be a mistake in the reports furnished thus far. We are given to understand that the American ships were anchored off shore. I think the water is entirely too deep for anchorage there. I should think that our ships must have been kept under way constantly.

"The reason why the Spanish Admiral chose to make a dash for liberty and freedom on a Sunday morning was because he believed he would catch our men napping. It was just there that he made his mistake.

"He knew that we always held our musters and inspections on board ship Sunday mornings. He believed, no doubt, that we did not have sufficient steam up on our ships to enable us to follow him at once. He furthermore believed—and he might have had good reason for such belief—that he would be able to run away from our ships on account of the superior speed possessed by the vessels under his command. You might say that there was a real difference in speed between the American and Spanish warships averaging about four knots.

"We find that at the time Cervera made his mad dash that the flagship New York, flying the flag of Rear Admiral Sampson, was some distance away, and still proceeding in an easterly direction. She was bound for the landing place where Admiral Sampson intended to communicate with General Shafter, of the army. This mission of the Admiral, no doubt, was a very important one. He could not know beforehand that the Spanish ships would attempt to make their escape.

"But at the same time, it must be remembered that the other American warships left behind to guard the mouth of the harbor of Santiago were distributed as had been arranged for weeks probably.

"We find the Indiana, Iowa, Oregon and Texas, four of the finest battleships of our glorious navy, together with the Brooklyn, flying the pennant of Commodore Schley, in a half circle around the mouth of the harbor. The Gloucester and Ericsson, and maybe some minor boats, were also on guard.

"These vessels were no doubt drifting leisurely about. The necessary precautions had been taken. The lookout men were at the stations, and the mouth of the harbor was being watched continuously.

"Now comes the report that the Spanish ships are trying to escape. And here we come to the first picture. The fleet of Spanish warships had to leave the harbor in single file. This was necessary on account of the narrowness of the channel, and also because of the shallow waters to be found near the entrance to the harbor.

"The reports say that the Spanish ships, the moment they cleared the harbor proper, took a course directly west. I think this is true only as concerned the torpedo destroyers.

"The bigger ships must have headed southeast, for some time, at least. With that course they were practically heading for the center of the half-circle of our ships. Of the torpedo boat destroyers I will speak later. They form an entirely independent chapter in the history of this grand old battle.

"The very moment the American lookout men saw the Spanish ships the scenes aboard our warships had changed. There was prompt action. It is here that the great training of both officers and men came into play. Our men are intelligent men. They are noble men. They are the true sailors of the age.

"While the Spanish torpedo boat destroyers head right off to the westward, the bigger ships of the enemy continue in a southerly direction. Our ships come on toward them, practically closing in on them, and pouring a fearful fire upon them.

"You can see from this picture just how the fight progressed. It might properly be called a running fight. And it was in that respect that our commanders showed the greatest skill and ability.

"You must not forget that the forts are still in existence. Our ships were compelled not only to fight the ships rather, to keep out of the way of the fire of the forts while the sea fight was in progress.

"The most terrific execution was done while the Spanish fleet was still within range of the guns of Morro. That our ships succeeded in making short work of the Spanish ships was due principally to the fact that our officers and men are better gunners. There is no doubt about that.

"In the American navy we are spending a great deal of time in target practice. Officers and men become experts only by constant practice.

"And then, again, we must not forget that credit is due to the men in the engine rooms. Spain has had considerable trouble with her engineers. Mostly Englishmen and Scotchmen have been employed as chief engineers of these big warships. I understand, however, that when hostilities broke out most of the foreign engineers abandoned the Spanish fleets.

"The running fight is continued. Our ships, after the enemy's entire [illegible] has passed out of Santiago harbor, steams abreast and continue to fight. Then our battleships are trying to get ahead of the ships of the enemy. In this way we can see where our ships are practically cutting the Spanish ships off.

"This is the proper way to fight. Push your enemy all you can. Try to get him near the rocks—and this, you see, is just what our men are doing.

"In this way we soon have the enemy's ships at our mercy, except the fleet Colon, which is steaming to the westward at her highest rate of speed.

"Ah! But look at our boats! Here are the ships of Spain capable of steaming 20 knots an hour, while our battleships are calculated to make but 16. But what do we find? We find the Oregon, after making a run of 17,000 miles, as compared with a run of 3,000 miles made by the armored cruisers of the Cape Verde fleet. The bottoms of our ships are supposed to be more foul than the bottoms of the Spanish ships. And yet, with all these odds against us, we keep abreast of the Colon; we do more—we steam ahead of her and capture!

"And look at the Texas! She travels for two hours under forced draught at the rate of over sixteen knots! Wonderful! Do you know what that means? Do you realize how those brave Americans work and work in the hot firerooms below?

"It is the kind of work that tells. But I can realize how our men worked. They were fighting for the Stars and Stripes and they were remembering the Maine.

"In this way we find the Vizcaya, Oquendo, Maria Teresa and the two torpedo boat destroyers disposed of in short order.

"The Brooklyn succeeds in cutting the Colon off. Then the Oregon comes up under her quarter and finally the Texas is on hand. Can you wonder that under such conditions the Spanish admiral struck his colors?

"What has happened in this: First, we have succeeded in getting the Spanish ships and our ships at the same time outside of the range of the forts, and then we have kept up a fearful, deadly, running fight—from the very start to the very end! It is glorious!

"The part the Gloucester played in this sea fight cannot be estimated too highly. Lieutenant Commander Richard Wainwright, her commander, deserves all the praise that has been given to him.

"I have the pleasure of knowing Mr. Wainwright personally. He served under me, and I want to state that he is a wonderful man, an excellent officer. At the time I was the commanding officer of the flagship Tennessee, when Admiral Jouett commanded the North Atlantic squadron, Mr. Wainwright was attached to the flagship as senior watch officer.

"You remember there was trouble on the Isthmus of Panama. A revolution had broken out, and the American ships were sent to Colon for the purpose of seeing to it that there was an uninterrupted transit from one ocean to the other across the Isthmus. It became necessary to land our marines and sailors.

"Mr. Wainwright commanded the first division of that landing party. There was fire in his eye when he was assigned to that command, and he certainly proved himself a most efficient officer. Then, later on, he was appointed secretary to Admiral Jouett.

"He is an author as well as a fighter. He has written several books. His works are being printed.

"But, notwithstanding the fact that we have had peace for so long a time our officers and men have had opportunities at times to land and to go into actual service. Such exercise keeps them in practice of which they avail themselves most fully.

"You ask me what difference there was, if any, between the battle fought at Manila and the battle at Santiago last Sunday. These two battles are entirely different, although the glorious results achieved may have been the same.

"The greatest difference between the two fights was that at Manila the Spanish were compelled to receive the attack made upon them. At Santiago, on the other hand, the enemy's ships were free to make such use of their guns as they saw fit. They could maneuver their ships.

"Then again there was a difference in the ships themselves at these two points. At Manila we had no regular first-class armored ships on our side, nor had we armored ships to fight against.

"At Santiago I might say that the strength of our ships lay in the armor. Our armor was probably more powerful than the armor of the ships of Admiral Cervera.

"But you must not forget one other very important factor—that is, that the ships of Spain were more speedy than our ships, a fact which went far to offset our advantage in armament.

"The lesson to be learned from both these great battles, and particularly from the battle of Santiago, is that after all, battles of the future must be fought out with battleships principally. Ouf course, the smaller vessels will have to be considered as well, but the battleships are the real fighting craft.

"As for torpedo boat destroyers, their stock went down considerably during the fight off Santiago. When war was first declared and it became known that we had practically no torpedo destroyers, tehre were many persons who worried considerably because of that fact. But the fight off Santiago has shown us that the torpedo boat destroyer is not such a dangerous foe after all.

"It may be that the torpedo boat destroyers as well as the torpedob oat did not get fair trials on this occasion. If two nations were going to organize fleets of warships for the purpose of engaging each other in battle, then in such a fight the torpedo boat and the torpedo destroyer would find their respective places. We must not forget that the Spanish have been handicapped for lack of engineers to look out for these boats on long trips. Perhaps after all the torpedo boats and torpedo boat destroyers may prove more useful another time.

At Manila Admiral Dewey was compelled to enter a harbor which he knew was mined, and at the same time he was compelled to fight forts ashore as welll as the batteries aboard of the Spanish vessels at anchor in the harbor. In his case the scene of action was a small one, much smaller than the one at Santiago last Sunday.

"At Manila the batteries ashore could more readily obtain the range of fire, while off Santiago the ranges were constantly changed as our ships moved to the westward while pursuing the ships of the enemy."

First Shark—Ugh!

Second Shark—Why, what in heaven's name is the matter with you?

First Shark—Bah—I got that Miss Serfbelle.

Second Shark—Well, I'm sure she's plump and pink enough for anything.

First Shark—Possibly! but I prefer my dishes with a trifle more dressing, thank you.

"You are standing on my gown, Mr. Commute," said a lady in a crowded ballroom to a gentleman.

"I beg your pardon, madam," replied the offender, "but you see I am so accustomed to riding on a train that I naturally get on board whenever a chance offers."