NO MAN'S V LAND A ROMANCE By LOUIS JOSEPH VANCE ILLUSTRATIONS BY RAY WALTERS COPYRICHT, 1919 BY LOUIS JOSEPH YANCE

SYNOPSIS.

Garnett Coast, a young man of New Terk City, meets Booglas Blackstock, who invited him to a card party. He accepts, although he dislikes Blackstock, the res-son heang this both are in love with Kath-rine Thanker. Coast falls to convince her that Blackstock is unworthy of her friendship, At the party Coast meets the a quarrel, and Blackstock shoets Vian Tayl dead. Coast strengtles to urest the warpon free him thus the police dis-conver them. Coast is arrested for murder. He is convicted, but as he begins his son-factor. Dundan mores Blackstock as the morderer and kills himself. Coast be-comen free, hut Blackstock as married Kutherine Thaxter and while sailing sees a man there is a wacht and while sailing sees a an thrown from a distant boat. He res-"But why?" he asked lightly. "Why the is named Appleyard, kenely island, known as Coust starts out to ex-"But why?" he asked lightly. "Why damn me for taking a simple measure toward self-preservation-obeving place and comes upon some ore lowerd sell-preservation-obeying buildings. The discovers a man. Nature's first law, and all that sort of er and approach-Upon going for thing? I want you to stick here unarro Kutherine 2. a house he sees Katherine Thaxter, he capitalitis that has bought the island, e is blind, a wireless operator and has station there. Count informs her that "I husband nurdered Van Turt, Coast "8 Blackstock and some Chinamets wring a main. They fire at him, but he pressed by Anderard who gets him. til tomorrow morning, at the earliest; that gives me a chance to make a you the means to gum up my plans? Thanks, i'm many kinds of a fool, i know, but not that bad!" "You'll never leave this island free," I'm many kinds of a fool, i know, but not that bad!" "You'll never leave this island free," I'm many kinds of a fool, i know, but not that bad!" "You'll never leave this island free," I'm many kinds of a fool, i know, but not that bad!" "You'll never leave this island free," I'm many kinds of a fool, i know, but not that bad!" "You'll never leave this island free," I'm many kinds of a fool, i know, but not that bad!" "You'll never leave this island free," I'm many kinds of a fool, i know, but not that bad!" "You'll never leave this island free," I'm many kinds of a fool, i know, but not that bad!" "You'll never leave this island free," I'm many kinds of a fool, i how, but not that bad!" "You'll never leave this island free," I'm many kinds of a fool, i how, but not that bad!" "You'll never leave this island free," I'm many kinds of a fool, i how, but not that bad!" "You'll never leave this island free," I'm the game was about up, so far as No Man's Land was concerned. So, what was the use of making a bad matter messy? You were harmless, and I didn't hate you hard enough to want you murdered—unless you made it necessary. So I voted for the laugh hat Black and his gang make a sideld if the surcless station to conduct a smugiffing breepens Const penetrates to in fair of Blackstock's disguise. Katherin presers the room and passes him a rot which tells Const that neither his Hi or her own are safe. Const feels tha Blachstock suspects him. Applevard an the E-the disappear Const assures Kath brine of his protection, and she inform blin that they are to abandon the blac menediately. The blind man and h Const penetrates to twant overnoscer Coast, who aft scapes and is met by Katherine to flee, They discover a yew to they can reach it the coold craft

CHAPTER XVIII.-(Continued.)

"Not entirely," he was saying, still with his evil secret smile. "I don't mind telling you, since you're curious, Mr. Coast. I did have the devil's own time with my eyes for a while. and believed I'd lose my sight entirely; I honestly went abroad on their incrount alone. One of the few honest juctions I boast, by the bye-if you don't find the interpolation obnoxdense.

His lough rang bitterly in Coast's ibearing.

My friends the German specialists, however," he resumed, "worked wonders; I found my strength of vision retorning, but was temporarily amused to continue the make-believe; it was dimmensely diverting for a time. I received consideration that I wouldn't . thave, otherwise, and I saw a lot I sussi't expected to see. And then, slowly, as I began to see more and more clearly, I realized the immense advantage it would give me to keep ion pretending. . You can figure it out yourself, from your own Ldiculous experience."

A slow, dark flush colored Coast's re. "Then," he asked a trace ily, "why are you giving yourself away DOW? "Because it diverts me extraordinarily, by your leave," Blackstone told him with unconcealed amusement. Your mortified look, your annoyance -it's rich, my word it is! Besides, the necessity of keeping you in the dark's eliminated in an hour, my gliddy squire of dames, I'll be bidding you a fond farewell. It's been a very pretty farce, while it lasted, and I'm ignmensely obligated to you for making such an uncommon ass of yourselt for my benefit, but the curtain's about to ring down. Hence these epilogue."

the case. . . . Well, as I was sayin. I worked the wireless pretty stead ily-was happy enough to pick up a message to the Scylla-a revenue cutter, I take it-ordering her here to bust up a nest of smugglers, and spiked that gun with another message, a couple of hours later, revoking the order as being based on false information. And, finally, I got my friends on the mainland to make up a little party to fetch me off. So, all

just now-merely satisfied sur

things being pleasant as afternoon tea, I came down to gloat over you a tling now !- just a strong twist of the little. Hope you don't mind." wrist and out comes our bilge plug "Why," said Coast-"since you'd made up your mind about me-why did you hold off this long? To laugh

at me?" "Partly, Mr. Coast, partly. There were other reasons. One was I don't bear you any ill-will; which you'll allow is pretty decent of me, considering the rotten way I've treated you. I don't kill in cold blood without a

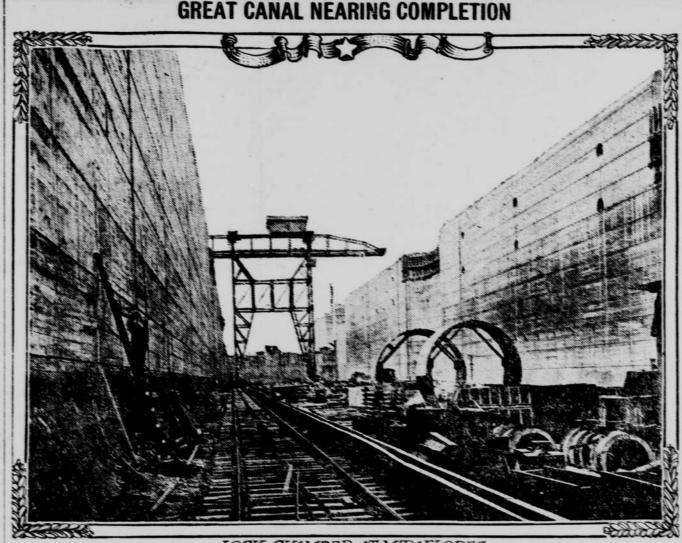
pretty good reason Van Tuyl's mouth had to be shut, you know-or rather, you don't know why, and likely never will; and Power was threatening to split on the game here. so he had to be taken care of. But you . . . I'll be candid: to begin with your life wasn't worth a tallowdip; 1 made up my mind to eliminate you with neatness and dispatchwhen your back was turned, for clean get-away. Why should I leave choice. But then I began to think the game was about up, so far as No

I'm wise to all you're banking on. It's instead of the funeral."

true you had me guessing for a time ["Do you think for an instant I in--i wasn't sure about you at first; tend to let you go?"

that immature beard you've been grow- "You? What've you got to say ing recently is quite some disguise, about it? Don't be silly; I'm going-





LOCK CHAMBER AT MIRAFLORES

Our photograph shows one of the immense lock chambers of the Panama canal at Miraflores nearly completed.

stacking room.

Basis for Much of Our Poverty.

Kansas City, Mo .- The whole gain of modern civilization in science, in-

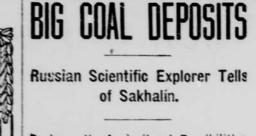
ceives her calls and attends her pa- vaseline or petrolatum, and almost show," declared Professor Davenport. age from Australia. tients in much the same fashion as black in color. The original recipe "Fashion today is a compound of foolany other doctor. The diseases to had been handed down from father to ish pride and foolish flunkeyism. If certained properties. He believes

The use of sulphuric acid in tan- eight years ago, and since then has ing for vanity. ning, may be an excellent preventive treated most of the great New York

for worms, but, on the other hand, libraries with success, including in selves in the gratification of vanity we in east Asia. Gold prospecting has leather so treated soon loses its natur- her long list the New York Bar asso- shall find that all our possessions are not had success. There is a great ciation, the Avery library at Columbia dead sea fruit and our life is weari- supply of timber, of which no use The present conditions in nearly all university, the private collection of ness." libraries do not tend to preserve old J. P. Morgan and the library of the

His Wife Loved Him Too Much.

shine is one of the most potent factors | being a book doctor. Miss Lewis is a Chicago .-- John Reckinger, when ago consisted of 20,000 Russian deportin disintegration, as are also gas and, practical llibrarian, having been in to a lesser degree, electricity. The charge of the Richard Hunt collection brought before the court of domestic ed convicts, and about half as many best way to secure good, fresh ven- for many years before taking up her relations, told the judge that he left free persons, sank to about 6,000 after



Declares Its Agricultural Possibilities Are Small, but Says There Is Good Pasture for Cattle-Deep Borings Made for Naphtha.

St. Petersburg .- Sakhalin, the forlorn easternmost island of the Russian empire-once the grimmest of convict settlements, and now, since the Portsmouth treaty. Japanese territory in its southern part-is attracting considerable scrutiny as to its natural resources. Russia is doing much to open up her Amur territory, and the process would be helped if Sakhalin, "the cork of the Amur bottle," were to prove an economic asset. A Russian scientific explorer, M. Polovoy, has just given the St. Petersburg Geographical society an estimate of its resources.

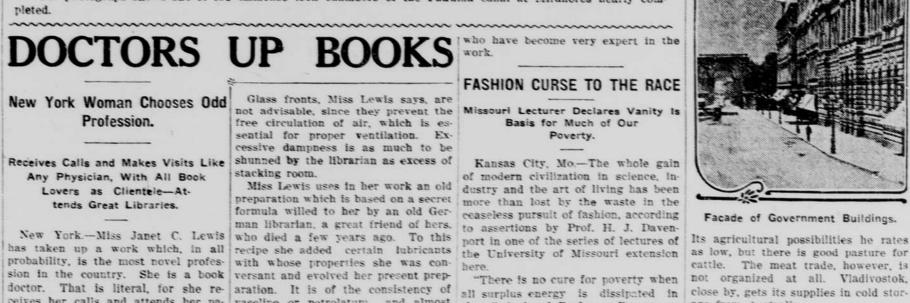


Facade of Government Buildings.

cattle. The meat trade, however, is "There is no cure for poverty when not organized at all. Vladivostok,

Coal is probably the best of its aswhich she ministers are various, and son in a family of book lovers and li- the social leaders have chosen a new that there are at least ten million only too well known to librarians who brarians, and previous to coming into costume or a new trick akimboing poods of it in the island. It would have to deal with old and valuable the hands of Miss Lewis had been their arms or of drawling their words find a good market in the western books. The chief of these is dry rot used effectively in various European all the social small fry must take the states of America, besides in Japan. cue therefrom. A part of the life of Deep borings are now in progress for Miss Lewis started her work some the best of us is set as a burnt offer- naphtha, which is in as good position as the Baku wells and should be able "So long as our desires fix them- to compete with American petroleum was made until in 1906 a firm began tc export railway sleepers.

The population, which a dozen years



"What," said Coast slowly, "do you think you mean?"

"Literally what I'm announcing to you." Blackstock yawned affectedly The plain-truth is," he continued with a mocking pretence of candor, "I'm a bit bored by this place. It's served its purpose well enough-I owe it no particular ill-will; and I've had my fing down here and made my bit of ready money; but now-no thanks toyou, by the bye-this neck of the pat and glib for it to be without a woods is growing a trace too hot for grain of truth; you gave me that toe. So I'm going to beat it and leave you cock of the roost."

"You mean you're going to try to escape in that cathoat?" Coast nodded removing his regard from Blackstock.

That tub? Never-r-r! No-inquistdown from New Bedford, kinduces of Corsair-which you interfered with ing I fixed things up very prettily. As for that shell out there, I guess pot!

Then why "See for yourself," Blackstock dent your friend, the Secret Service

nodded. sleuth-Coast turned to look-retaining with ome difficulty his grasp upon the dogdemanded huskily. collar. Intermittently while Blackstock talked the blind collie had been making vicious attempts to break away, apparently infuriated by the man's harsh and sardonic accents. And mechanically Coast had been restraining him.

Indistinctly in the failing light he made out the tall, gaunt figure of the Chinaman poised with lifted arms on Though Wastefully Operated for 2,000 the gunwale of the boat, preparing to dive, and he received a vague impression that the bost itself was riding lower in the water. At first he failed to make the connection between the two. Then, as he watched, Chang leapt lightly up and out, turned in as that time they realized what could which are hundreds of years old. But midair and entered the water as neatbe done with the marble which com- little advantage has been taken of ly as an arrow, with barely a perceptible splash

"You see," commented Blackstock in a few square miles of territory, but drills and saws, the principal tools of bringing him back to his ship in with a note of impatience, "I though an army of 6,000 men and boys are being steel bars and chisels, mallets, the hope of obtaining the customary I'd remove at least one burden from your already overstrained intelli-supporting 100,600 of the people of powder is placed in big holes, exgence.

His inscience fanned to a flame the smoldering resentment in Coast's range of Italian mountains. Though explosion that the waste marble is his way back to Philadelphia when the "What the devil are you get they have been opened for 2,000 years, much more than the block which is incident occurred. In a spirit of fun bosom. ting at?" he demanded hotly. and, as stated, the mining methods

"You," returned Blackstock, un are attended with enormous waste, it Magazine. moved. "I had an idea you were mak- is known that vast beds of the marble ing sheeps' eyes at my little boat, so still exist. By digging longer - and I decided to deliver you from tempta- longer tunnels and shafts an inextion, and sent Chang out to scuttle haustible supply can be obtained, for society with my gowns." "In that case, ber. A simple matter-watch her set- the beds are so extensive that some why not go in for barefoot dancing?"

"You Can Figure It Out Yourself."

and besides you'd changed your way | and not to the electric chair, either, of talking; his lordship's languid I shall just quietly drop out of your drawl was missing; and you look like ken for good and all-and some day any other ordinary mutt, out of your you'll be grateful. Look what a cute pretty clothes-but I got your num- little island I'm making you a presber in due course of time. That ent of-God knows I've no further use break you made about the gun when for it; you're welcome. Same way I was pulling my bluff about knowing | with my wife: I was rather fond of people by the feel of their faces- her, once, but now you can have her. you forgot yourself then, and I hadn't Of course there'll be some delay any more doubts. I did some tall fig- about the blessed respectability end uring before I got completely hep, but of it-the divorce-grounds-desera little work with wireless rounded | tion-and all that-but, still, if you're the story out. You see, you had the half as keen a lover as you are a yarn of the Corsair's trouble down too fool-

"You contemptible hound!" "Steady, there!" Blackstock's voice much to go on. . . . And then- dropped to a dangerous key. "Re-

well, we knew one man certainly, and member----" probably two, had been on the island He found no time to finish. As he spoke Coast, beside himself, released in the fog yesterday morning and toward the craft in question without butted in on the funeral obsequies of the dog and whirled the tiller above my ill-advised young assistant, Power, his head. With a grunt Blackstock and it didn't seem in reason they'd stepped back, tugging at the weapon tive! but I don't mind-I'm going to go be content to let the matter rest at in his pocket; but before he could away from here in a nice little, tight that-'specially after going to the drop it the dog, free and frantic with 'little motor-boat that's now on the way trouble of breaking Chang's head in hatred, launched itself like a bolt for return for being shot at. . . . So I his throat and, blind though it was, the same friends who sent me the got busy, as I say, and the fog help- springing by instinct toward the sound of his voice, found its mark. Coast's bludgeon, sweeping for his "I warned Voorhis-he's sloping for safety now; sent the tug after the head with deadly accuracy, none the Corsair, unhappily too late-it's evi- less missed its mark, so quickly the dog staggered and carried Blackstock off his feet

In a twinkling they were down, "How did you guess that?" Coast Blackstock underneath, grappling madly with the frenzied collie whose "Considering what I've been up to, jaws were snapping wickedly at his what was the likeliest guess? I | throat.

of the mines are worked at a height

of over a mile above the sea, while

many of the workings are over 2,000

feet above the sea. This is a great

The Other Extreme.

"I haven't enough money to startle

wasn't sure until you gave it away (TO BE CONTINUED.)

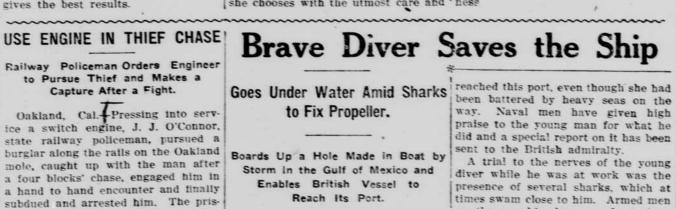
Marble Quarries in Italy

Years, the Supply Is Still

Inexhaustible.

tilation and a proper supply of light, present work. She finds that she can his wife because her continued dis- the Japanese war. The convicts had while barring the sunlight, is to have no longer continue her work unaided play of affection for him became very got their liberty on condition they the windows and globes of the lights and now has a corps of assistants tiresome. She even followed him to volunteer for the war. Russians tinted red, green or yellow. Green book lovers as she is herself, whom his office and interfered with his busi- sold their houses for next to nothing. she chooses with the utmost care and 'ness gives the best results.

and valuable bindings. Direct sun- Metropolitan museum. In addition to



oner is Ed Rensen, and he is in jail charged with petty larceny. The capture was made late last markable feats ever performed by a night. O'Connor noticed Rensen and diver is related by the offices and another man removing about one hun- crew of the British sloop of war dred feet of lead pipe from a freight Shearwater, which is undergoing re-

car at the Oakland mole. He ordered pairs at the Union Iron works. J. P. the men to halt, but they took to their Lirgane, a young Irish shipwright, heels and ran down the footpath along boarded up the propeller well while the rails. O'Connor followed, but the the vessel was rolling in heavy seas and so enabled her to make the voy-

Seeing that he had no chance of age to this port.

capturing them on foot, he ran over The Shearwater was cruising off the o a train which was being switched coast of Mexico when in a storm she about and ordered the engine driver lost her propeller. Resort was immeto assist him. The train started after diately had to her sails, but it was the burglars with O'Connor in the en- found that steering was almost imgine cab. When the engine was possible, because the big arch or well at reast of the fugitives O'Connor under the stern in which the propeller jumped off, He sought to arrest Ren- had revolved made the rudder's work sen, but the latter fought. O'Connor ineffectual. The officers decided that was the stronger in the scuffle and if they were to bring the ship to port downed and handcuffed his man. In this well must be boarded up. the meantime the other man disap-Lingane was sent down to do the

peared in the darkness.

Exonerated for Death.

without the money, a sadder but wiser

Idaho several weeks previous.

men were too fleet for him.

New York Woman Chooses Odd

Profession.

Receives Calls and Makes Visits Like

Any Physician, With All Book

Lovers as Clientele-At-

tends Great Libraries.

or disintegration, due to various libraries.

causes.

al oil.

Springfield, Ohio.--A jury acquitted the bad rolling of the ship and to by the air pressure. Pearl Elder, white, charged with man- handle the heavy timbers that were slaughter for the killing of James San- passed to him. He fastened the boards are sunk," she said, "but I never had ford, a negro, alleged paramour of El- so securely that they had only shifted an opportunity before to inspect one der's mother, September 28, 1910. in one place when the Shearwater in course of construction."



Clad in Gym Costume, Overalls and Jumper, Miss Ruth Kenny Watches cinking of Piers.

Kansas City, Mo .- Miss Ruth Kenney, teacher of mathematics in the Rosedale high school, descended the Congressman Levy, Owner for 35 narrow, muddy ladder to the bottom of the pneumatic caisson which is be-

ing used to build the foundation for the James street bridge in Kansas City, Kan., and remained half an hour thirty feet below the bed of the Kaw river.

Miss Kenney wore her gymnasium costume and over that a pair of overalls and jumper, just like the "mud hogs" who work down in the slime at the base of the piers.

She had been told by the foreman work. Though hampered by his heavy just how to take a full breath and diving suit and by the weight of water, he was able to adjust himself to slowly exhale, so as not to be affected

"Often I have read how these piers

Odd Discovery at Cheever

A whole village was left to caretakers for 50 rubles. Last year the ex-convicts who had served in the war and returned were declared free peasants and settled near Alexandrovsk, the seat of government. Sakhalin's weak side, as M. Polovov found it, is in its cut off condition, not

so much geographically as through want of steam navigation. Moreover, the coasting trade is closed against foreign shipping. There are very few roads into the interior, even the roads prospected by the Russian prisons department have fallen back into waste. Harbors are scarcely to be found at all. Labor is unskilled and there is no ascertainable general rate of wages. Evidently the plantlessness that has hitherto marked the administration of the important "cork of the Amur" will need to be changed if its great coal and lumber resources are to get a chance.

WON'T SELL JEFFERSON HOME

Years, Announces He Will Not Dispose of Monticello.

New York .- Congressman Jefferson M. Levy has no intention of selling Monticello, once the home of Thomas Jefferson, to the government or any one else. The idea of the purchase of Monticello by the government, recently proposed by patriotic societies in Washington, is distasteful to him, he declares, in a statement given out

Mr. Levy has been the owner of Monticello thirty-five years and during that time the property has been scrapulously maintained. Visitors have been admitted to the estate freely, Mr. Levy explains, and the condition of the property is better than it would be if owned by the government.

Hen Hooks a Long Ride.

TRAMP SEIZES A FINE HOME Winsted, Conn.-A. Thomaston, a Leavenworth, Kan., Caretakers Make grain dealer, received a car load of baled hay from Canada this week, and when the shipment was being unloaded a white Leghorn hen was discovered between the hay tiers. Biddy had laid several eggs while in transit. The car containing the hay and hen left Canada two weeks previous and Biddy had no food or water during that time.

Home Rule Bill Liked.

London .- John O'Callaghan, national secretary of the United Irish honor at a dinner given by nationalist members of the house of commons. T. P. O'Connor praised Premier Asquith's

bill as the best measure for home rule ever introduced in parliament.

Promise Reduced Rates.

Liverpool .- Frank L. Brown, chairman of several committees, sailed on the Mauretania with the promise of several steamship companies to grant reduced rates for European visitors. and exhibits for the Panama-Pacific exposition.

Costly Joke on Detective

for Deserter From United States Navy.

Philadelphian Took Seaman on Leave first train for this city. Martin denied that he was a deserter, stating that he had made the assertion in fun, but Miller was obdurate and insisted on accompanying him back to his

northwestern Italy. No one knows ploded, and frequently the side of the man. Martin had been visiting his Child Slid Down Pipe to Furnace. how much marble is contained in this mountain will be so shattered by the home in Sellersville, Ill., and was on Altoona, Pa .- While looking for his mother's thimble, Morris, the two-year. webbed bottles taken from their musty old son of Robert Templeton, stepped loosened .- Albert Wilheim in Cassier's he declared that he had deserted the into a hot-air pipe this wek and slid down to the furnace. His mother, Without waiting to write or tele frantic with fear that he had been graph to the Idaho for particulars, the roasted alive, tore down the pipe, and Herrick, recently appointed ambassadetective, whose name is Miller, took found that the child had saved him- dor to France, sailed for that country Martin into custody and boarded the self by making a wedge of his arms. with Mrs. Herrick.

House. Leavenworth, Kan .- When caretakers for the house on Miami street formerly occupied by Col. and Mrs. Beniamin H. Cheever and now owned by

League island the detective found that a tramp had taken possession. The Martin had been on a leave of ab house is richly furnished and has sence and still had two days to his been without a tenant except the credit before reporting for duty. Miller tramp. He had slept on the spotless could only retire as gracefully as pos- linen in the massive brass beds, washsible, while the crew of the Idaho ed his hands in marble basins, waltzed League of America, was the guest of gleefully bombarded him with pota- with his brogans on the oriental rugs, eaten from silver plate and drunk

from cut glass goblets. Cans of imported dainties were robbed of their contents and cobhiding places in the cellar bins.

New Ambassador Saile

New York .- Former Gov. Myron T.

The mines or quarries are only with such as electric and compressed air the detective who paid the expenses

arrested in Pittsburg, and brought back to his vessel two days before his poses so much of this mountain range. the modern labor-saving machinery, leave of absence had expired, while

Philadelphia, Pa-As a result of a Twenty centuries ago men were advantage to the Italians, however, boast that he was a deserter from the ship. digging out the side of the Apuan because methods are still in use in navy. Owen Martin, a seaman on the mountains, in Italy, for as far back quarrying and getting out the marble battleship Idaho, at League island, was

toes. reward of \$60 returned to Smoky City

Arriving on board the Idaho at Mrs. Cheever entered they found that

diver while he was at work was the presence of several sharks, which at times swam close to him. Armed men on the warship, however, kept them

