THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF WOMEN

Nancy - A Business Woman - A Shrewd Girl Gambler.

A SURPLUS OF THE FAIR SEX

A Fine Present-The Boston Girl-The Whistling Craze-Female Mayors-The Sultan's Mother-An American Girl in India.

John A. Fraser, Jr.

In brown holland apron she stood in the Her sleeves were rolled up, and her cheeks all aglow; Her hair was coiled neatly, when I, indis-

ereetly Stood watching while Nancy was kneading Now, who could be neater, or brighter, or

Or who hum a song so delightfully low, who look so slender, so graceful, tender.

As Nancy, sweet Nancy, while kneading the dough? How deftly she pressed it, and squeezed it. caressed it

And twisted and turned it, now quick and now slow, Ah; me, but that madness I've paid for in sadness.
'Twas my heart she was kneading as well

as the dough. At last when she turned for her pan to the dresser, She saw me and binshed, and said shyly

Please go, 7
Or my bread I'll be spoiling, in spite of my If you stand here and watch while I'm kneading the dough."

I begged for permission to stay-she'd not The sweet little tyrant said, "No, sir! no! Yet when I had vanished on being thus ban-

My heart stayed with Nancy while kneading the dough. I'm dreaming, sweet Nancy, and see you in

fancy. Your heart, love, has softened and pitied And we, dear, are rich in a dainty, wee kitchen, Where Nancy, my Nancy, stands kneading

the dough A Business Woman.

Philadelphia Record: Mrs. Dow hav-ing been elected president of a horse railway company in Dover, N. H., the reporters have been after her, and have obtained an instructive story of how she came to engage in a business heretofore monopolized by men. According to the published story, Mrs. Dow, who was a small stockholder in the road, discovered that a Boston syndicate, purely as a matter of investment, was trying to buy up a majority of the stock at about one third its cost. She quite naturally concluded that, if a foreign syndicate could afford to buy control of the road, she and other residents of Dover, with property interests at stake, could better afford to keep it in their own hands, so she outbid the Boston syndicate and obtained a majority of the stock. Then she had herself elected president of the road, so that she could look after her property. thus acquired. Mrs. Dow deserves to succeed. It is given as another proof of her business acumen that she has already reduced fares from six cents to

A Girl Gambler on Ship-board.

New York Sun: A professional male gambler can nearly always be found aboard. Glib of tongue, plausible in speech, sedately dressed, he manages to prove a big winner at every sitting. The opportunities for gain for a female gambler are even more numerous. Young fellows, and even old ones, under the excitement of ship life, and the abundance of time on their hands, are easily roped in by the baiting smiles of a pretty girl. If her behavior is demoher company is all the more sought after, since her preferences, no matter how slight, toward one man are sure to cause rivalry in others.

A sample of an American girl, with a taste for eards, was on the Alaska. The young lady was "going it on her own hook." Unattended and ostensibly destined for London, she was not twentyfour hours on the vessel before she had three admirers furious in their atten-tions to her. She told them all sorts of stories about her life; how her mother was a French woman from New Orleans. her father an Englishman and herself a Canadian by birth, but there was no chance to mistake her mannerisms. In an ungarded moment she would yell at the top of her voice when the ship would lurch, "Hello! you bet that was a tum-ble." A number of times she emphasized her words with a final "and don't you forget it.'

All the same, she won a handsome sum at cards the first night. Those who played with her were reticent concerning their losses

A Surplus of Women.

Washington Correspondence: According to most reliable figures available, there are about 20,000 more women in Washington than men. The fact of its being the seat of government very naturally attracts scheming women and adventuressess. The scheming ones are not necessarily all women of the vicious and immoral class. Schemers can move in the best circles. Many a woman comes here because she agines it is a good place to win a hus-band; others think they can get employment, and still others who have a little money manage to make friends among the residents, and they pass a winter in the hope of getting into so-

has always been a mystery how many of the females known to be honest and respectable manage to live here. It is an expensive place, but they manage to keep up appearances. They have nearly all been reduced from some higher sphere. Many of them are the wives or daughters of men who have been in government positions in the army or navy, or perhaps in congress, and have died leaving nothing for their families. Some of those who have been so reduced have trod the highest walks of social eminence. Those of more common place qualifications have surrendered their social position and opened boarding houses or gone into the departments. There is an ex-represen-tative still alive here in Washington who has two daughters in one of the departments.

Employment sought by accomplished ladies of reduced circumstances is that chaperone for young people. chaperone is a very important attachment for young people in Washington society, and one it is not always easy to get. It is embarrassing, and besides, generally inconvenient, for mammas to have to sit in the corner or against the wall and nod while their fair daughters whirl in the waltz and tread the mystic

mazes that lead to premature old age. An amiable chaperone, who will go with the girls to the theater, to balls and parties, and where not, is cheap at most any price, and can find plenty to do profitably. Of course they do not advertise: "Wanted-A situation as chap-Nor do they ask Mrs. Pennyharvest if she does not want to hire a chaperone with long experience and good references. Not at all. It all comes about very naturally. The lady is so-accommodating and Mrs. Pennyharvest is so gratesul that it all comes to be understood. Another occupation of

fashionable ladies of reduced circumstances is that of reading to invalids and entertaining them with all the small talk of the day.

All these means are resorted to by ladies who have by some misfortune been thrown on their own resources. Some perform these services openly with no pretense of concealment of their necessities, Others manage to keep their occupation a secret between themselves and the one they serve, each patron thinking that she is the only one so favored. Washington is the place for the cultivation of clever women, and they are found living upon their sharp wits in all the walks of society. Many do a thriving business in the "lobby." There is one young girl. There is one young girl, who is about the capitol every winter.

of her practice before the house. A Fine Present.

who is said to make a large income out

Christmaseve there was a tree in a town hall in Bucksport, Me., and one mischievous young lady who thought the proceedings were too solemn, laid a plan for waking the old folks up by climbing to the top of the tree on a stepladder after the glass and crockery was distributes and accidently (?) falling into the bushes. She took one old gentleman into her confidence, and he, unknown to her, improved on the scheme by hooking on her dress a tag with a young gentleman's name on it. The fall came off according to programme, and the wicked joker caught the young lady and boldly read off the young man's name. "To my surprise," said the old gentlemen," he answered 'here,' and boldly took his present in his arms amid the applause of the now boisterous audience." The young man and young lady had never spoken to each other before.

The Terrible Boston Girl.

Chicago Tribune: Richard Murphy. the secretary of a concern which is building some large warehouses at Auburn Junction, had an experience not long since with a Boston girl. Mr. Murphy, in his innocent way, chanced to speak of a well-known Chicagoan as "a humanitarian." The Boston girl was up and at him in a moment.
"Oh, but he isn't that, is he?" she in-

quired. Why, certainly, that is his reputation," retorted Murphy.
"Well, it's too bad," rejoined the young lady from the Hub; "I thought-

he was a good man, a religious man. It was now the bland young secretary's turn to express amazement. What could his tormentor be driving at? At last he found out.

"Don't you know what a humanitarian is?" she inquired. "Go and get your dictionary, read, and henceforth be careful how you speak of good men, particularly of leading lights in the church as 'humanitarians.'" In the dictionary Murphy read: "Humanitarian-One who denies the divinity of Christ." Then he whistled softly to himself, remarked that that was a new one on him and inwardly resolved to steer clear of young ladies from Boston

Girls and the Whistling Craze. New York Mail and Express: "There are few young ladies in society who cannot whistle," remarked a professor of music, who has a great many pupils in the aristocratic circles of New York "What has given them the whistling craze?"

"The wonderful whistling performances of Mrs. Alice J. Shaw and Mrs. Jennie R. Campbell have stimulated a legion of beautiful imitators. But the fewest number can whistle with any-thing like success. They can carry an air through very well, but the shading and the piccolo-like melody are absent. It is sometimes very amusing to see a young lady pucker her ruby lips and try to whistle some popular air to her own accompaniment on the piano. The accompaniment is admirable, but the whis The actle is often marred by glaring deficiencies in the art of blowing sound through the lips. Mrs. Shaw's flute-like notes are simply phenomenal compared to the average young lady's, and those who expect to emulate her cessfully must in the first be assisted by natural aptitude. Some men can whistle with ease, and produce notes of a clear, crystal quality, while others who are good musicians, too, can scarcely whistle a common tune. The same can be said of women Some years ago it was a rare thing to hear a young lady whistling, but now every household has a young daughter that goes about the household trying in a dolce far niente way to imitate the birds. I remember the time when it was considered very unrefined for a young lady to whistle, and the mother always chided her by repeating the very trite lines about a whistling woman and a crowing hen never coming to a good end. All that is changed now-I mean among social circles in the large cities, and the mother and father are just as proud of their daughter's whistling accomplishments as they used to be of their skill as musicians. The mandolin, guitar and banjo for the present are relegated to the back stairs of unpopularity to make room for the new craze. I know a young lady who can whistle a Waldteuful waltz with such sweetness of expression that her listeners are charmed. Her beautiful lips seem principally constructed for waltz time, for she does no other pieces as well. It takes practice, confidence and a natural gift to attain the highest rung of the ladder as a whistler. Mrs. Shaw is the great diva, and stands unrivalled. In a few years all the young ladies will be better whistlers than the

young men." He Doesn't Like Female Mayors.

Indianapolis Journal: "Female mayors are no good," saidthe ex-city mar-shal of Argonia, Kas.: "Why, Mrs. Salter has just killed Argonia. I used to have a hotel there and was the city marshal, but I couldn't stand it. so I just scooted, and I expect I'm to blame for her election, too.

You know she wasn't nominated in any of the conventions. About 9 o'clock on lection day all of us boys were feeling gay and agreed to meet at a hall and nominate a candidate to knock out Wilson. Jack Ducker, he is the toughest man in the place and the undertaker, got up in the meetin' and nominated Mrs, Susanna Medora Salter for mayor, and the nomination was made unanimous. We rushed into the street and commenced to work for our candidate. At noon her husband came to us and begged us to quit the racket sayin it was an insult to his wife. We wouldn't do it, and the voters commenced to come our way in clusters. We got full of whisky and enthusiasm, and at 4 o'clock every one was votin' for our our candidate. Well, you know as how she was elected. We had a jollification, and when she took her seat like a man

all our fun was busted. "I sent up to Kansas City for some crab apple cider, just to please the boys. She heard of it and asked me to stop it. You can't fight a woman, and she the mayor. Then I started a little poker room, more for sociability than anything else. Chips were only 10 cents. She heard of it and came to me and I she was elected, used to keep blue-grass bitters, lemon rye, and extract of malt, and a few other things like that. He don't do it now. The mayor heard of it. Then the two billiard rooms were running. They're closed up now. The mayor don't think it is fashionable to push the ivories. That's the way it is had to stop. Then the druggist, before

with everything. I just couldn't stand the town and so I came up here." 'She's the only woman mayor on

earth, is she not?" "That's just what she is. You ought to see the letters she gets, foreign letters and the like, askin' for her autograph, and askin' her if it is true that she is the mayor, and all questions like that. When I was marshal I used to act under her, and many's the letter she has shown me from abroad."

A Girl on a Rope. Danbury News: Belated churchgoers on Sunday morning had a chance to witness a rather unusual comedy in the third story of a Main street block, the principal actors in which were two young ladies. It seems that one of the ladies had dropped a parcel from the window to the roof of the adjoining building, some distance below. There being no other way to gain the roof, a There short ladder was attached to a rope, and while one steadied the combination from the window, the other climbed hand over hand down the rope until she reached the ladder, thence descending

threw it up to her companion and then returned in the same manner. An American Girl in India.

the roof and gaining the parcel, she

Buffalo Courier: Miss Mary Graybiel, one of the missionaries sustained in India by the sect known as Disciples, writes very interesting letters to her family in this city. The place at which Miss Graybiel is now located is in the heart of India, on the line of the rail-road which is to be built from Bambay directly across to Calcutta. The chil-dren of the Sunday schools of the de-nomination in the United States contributed a fund of some four thousand dollars with which to erect a house for this mission, and in her last letter she modestly tells how the work was done. It appears that she had to serve as archmaster builder, and general boss mechanic. First, she bought four yoke of buffaloes to do the teaming; then a few big trees—they are very scarce in that part of the country She employed a hundred natives, or nearly that number, whom she taught to quarry the stone, which had to quarry the stone, which had to be hauled several miles, and to make brick, first trampling the clay, fashioning it into the bricks, and then burning them, using the spare portions of the trees for fuel. The trunks of the ces were laboriously by hand sawed into boards for the floors, roof, etc. A stone foundation three feet thick was laid three feet below ground and as much above, this solid base wall being

ants, which are a great pest of the country. Evidently a good job was made of the wall, for Miss Graybiel ingenuously relates that an Englishman visitor in quired who had been the engineer, and expressed much surprise when told that she had directed the work herself. Incidentally Miss Graybiel states that the son of a German missionary living some forty miles distant was killed by tiger. She attended the funeral, making the journey through the solid jungle in a cart drawu by a pair of the buffaloes, with the chance of being sprung upon by that or some other tiger at any

deemed necessary to keep out the white

moment. Such is life in the wilds of CONNUBIALITIES.

There are only eight unmarried men on the St. Louis police force. A Pennsylvania young man recently married a girl who had refused him eighteen

An Ohio man has been charged with making love and becoming engaged to three sisters all at once. Frank Damrosch, chorus-master of the Metropolitan Opera house, was lately mar-

ried to Miss Hettie Mosenthal. Seven engagements were made at a leapyear party at Woodland, Cal., the other night fourteen couples were present. Miss Amelie Rives, the authoress, is said to have been overwheimed with offers of narriage since her portrait was published re-

The emperor of China is to be married at an expense of \$5,000,000, but his bride intends to get along without a hired girl for a year or so to make up. "Father, comment is unnecessary," she re-

cently.

marked, with a wave of the head, as the old man began to remonstrate against her proposed marriage. Miss Hooper, of Cincinnati, who has resided in Paris for many years, is to become the wife of the Marquis d'Adda-Salvaterra,

and will reside in Milan. A Minnesofa couple drove eight miles last

week when the atmosphere was 20° below zero in order to get married. The proceeding was a brave one, it must be allowed. A town in Germany has a law prohibiting drunkards from marrying. Every town and country in the civilized world ought to have

such a law and enforce it rigorously. Miss Louisa Corbin, of New York, will soon wed Mr. Horace Walpole, nephew and heir of Lord Oxford. The English papers say that "the lady has great expectations. The daughter of the president of the sister

republic of Mexico was married recently to Senor de La Torre. She should have married a Toreador to have been popular in Mex-

A Syracuse wife, lately divorced, testified that whenever she asked her husband where he was going or when he would be home "he gave her such i fell in a heap." such an awful look that she almost

Clara Louise Kellogg's marriage to Carl Strakosch has just been officially announced by cards from her father and mother, coupled with the advertisement of a spring concert through the eastern states. An enterprising clothier advertises guaranteeing a wife to every man who buys a suit of clothes. This is no inducement at all. What would do for this country better would be a guarantee of a suit of clothes to every man who has a wife.

London society is agitated over the coming marriage of Miss Sibyi D'Israeli with a Mr. Seiwyn Calverley. The young lady is a daughter of Ralph, Lord Beaconsfield's brother, and is said to be as bright and charm-ing as the heroine in her uncle's tale, after whom she was named. She has moreover her uncle's power of epigram and brilliancy

of wit.

A Montana paper recently contained this remarkable notice: "Mr. Charles Johnson and Miss Fanny West were married by Rev. S Hills on Wednesday. So far no trouble has resulted and those best informed as the situ-ation say there will be none." The next day the editor apologized and explained that part of an item regarding an incipient strike had got in the wrong place.

That was a brave and merry matrimonial quartette, consisting of Eli Boggs, Miss Rhoda Smith, and Marion Greenhill and Miss Kate Chandler, who walked from Carter county, Kentucky, a distance of 100 miles, to Rugsville to be married. But when youths determine to wed and there is opposition they will go to any length to tie the connubial knot. True love grows upon oppo-

The mysterious disappearance of Bride-groom George W. Little on the night of his wedding at Uniontown, Pa., is still the cause of much excitement. He left the house of of much excitement. He left the house of his flancee last Monday night, and has not his nancee last Monday hight, and has not been seen since. A visit to his room and cigar store showed that nothing had been disturbed, so the theory that he had fled to escape the bonds of matrimony finds few believers. Foul play is expected. He had received several threatening latters. ening letters. Several shots were heard in the store on Monday night. The disappearance is supposed to be the result of jeal

A Greek wedding is a tedious affair, lasting a whole day, though the religious services last about an hour. The young bride has her eyes sealed and is led by her maids of honor, and she takes the bridegroom's hand and they kneel upon a cushion in front of the

THE SOLDIER AND SAILOR.

Their Life in Washington-The Pets of Society.

LITTLE PHIL'S HANDSOME HOME.

Prominent Members of the Service-Naval Officers Who Dislike Salt Water-Gallant Knife and Fork Warriors.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25 .- [Special Correspondence of the BEE.]-Washington is the Mecca of the army and navy. If, as said, all good Americans, outside the service, go to Paris when they die, all army and navy officers turn their eyes in the last moment, if possible, towards Washington. It is the home of the general staff, the refuge of the retired, and the camping ground of the "soft service brigade." In addition to the large number of officers who are detailed for easy jobs in connection with the war department, the District of Columbia, the navy department and its various bureaus, several hundred of retired army and navy officers and their families are located at the national capital. These make a large colony of their own. The greater part of two whole streets is occupied by their residences and rented nouses. The great influx of the army and navy

officers into Washington has occurred

the one of Commodore English, of the

General Holabira, the quartermaster-

general, is one of the staff officers at the

national capital who gives all his time

to this work and is enthusiastic in improving his branch of the service. To

General Holabird's labors during the

past ten years, before and since his pro-motion to the head of the quartmaster's

department, is largely due the effi-

ciency of that department and the fact

that our army is to-day the best clothed

and best shod at the least expense of

any in the world. The general will re-

tire within the next few years by reason of age and there will be a lively

One of the most interesting officers

connected with the staff at Washington is Brigadier-General A. W. Greely,

who succeeded General Hazen as chief

GENERAL GREELY'S SERVICES

and sufferings as an Arctic explorer are

too well known throughout the country

to need repetition. He was brought

back from his journey towards the

north pole broken down in health and

seriously enfeebled in mind, it was

thought. Shortly afterwards he received

promotion in his own regiment, the Fifth cavalry, and became a captain. An effort was made by his friends to se-

cure the passage of a bill making him

a major and assistant adjutant general, in order that he might seek retirement

from the army within a few months thereafter, upon pay which would allow him to live comfortably, if not luxuri-ously for the rest of his life. Owing to

the bitter opposition of the "soft service

brigade," the effort was defeated, and

Captain Greely was once more assigned

to duty in the signal service, which he

had so greatly honored. General Ha-

zen's death, which occurred not long after the failure of Captain Gree-

gave his friends an opportunity to more signally show their apprecia-

tion of his private character and their

recognition of his distinguished services

on behalf of science. His name was presented to the president as a candi-

date for General Hazen's old place, and

the nomination, which was promptly made, was as promptly confirmed. With-

in two years Captain Greely, by this

combination of circumstances, was raised from a first lieutenant with a salary of

less than \$2,000 a year, to the rank of

brigadier-general with \$5,500 a year.

He has improved materially in health during the last twelve months, and, while

still, as he always will be, a delicate look-

ing man, shows no outward signs of a

seriously impaired constitution. At the

president's reception he spoke warmly

to several Nebraskans of his former resi

dence in Omaha and inquired with in-

terest about a number of his old ac-

There are between seventy-five and

one hundred army officers connected

with the various bureaus of the war department or engaged in detached duty about the national capital. They are

variously employed in overseeing clerks,

working on the publication of war rec-brds, supervising the improvements of

the District of Columbia, directing the

shipment of quartermaster and subsist-ence stores, compiling statistics in the

surgeon general's office, passing on

court-martial reports, and grading from

hard work to doing as little as seems

practicable under the present circum-

But if the army is well represented at

the national capital, what shall be said

of the navy? The city absolutely

swarms with naval officers on leave and

on shore duty, on temporary detail

and on permanent service. The number of naval officers who

when not at sea is legion, and the num-

ber of naval officers, wives and families is almost innumerable. They swarm at

gatherings, crowd the floor at balls and

germans, and are a prominent feature at every private and public social enter-

tainment. The number of naval officers

here on station, on shore duty, or on

leave is largely due to the small number

of ships and floating coffins which the

government has provided for the active employment of its sailors. There are

NAVAL OFFICERS

away from the smell of sait water to

man a dozen of the largest-sized men-

of-war from forecastle to quarterdeck

but under the topheavy organization of

the department, into a dozen different

bureaus, desks, and occupations of more or less importance is found for scores of

them within a short range from the

white house, and in close proximity to

the parlors and ball rooms of the na-

Including the marine corps, there are

* home

number of naval officers make Washington their

receptions, fill the parlors

enough

tional capital.

stances on a detail at Washington.

quaintances.

secure retirement, at once

struggle for his shoes.

signal officer.

the most good.

within the past fifteen years. Prior to that time Washington was not a desirable residence city, and even its social attractions were few and far between, as compared to what they are at present. But since the Shepherd regime, which transformed Washington from a dusty and unsightly city to a handsome metropolis, all is changed. To-day the national capital is the most beautiful city in America—the Paris of the United States—and bids fair, at no late day, to be the handsomest city in the world. In consequence it has drawn to it many prominent and wealthy residents of all classes and among them hundreds of retired army and navy officers to whom its society and official life form pleasant features of their residence. Washington is peculiarly favorable as aplace of residence for the families of officers of the twin services. In the national capital, more than anywhere else in the country, their number and close affinity, exercise a mighty sway over social circles. It is an unwritten law that shoulder straps and epaulettes, brass buttons and gold lace are sufficient vouchers for the social standing of their wearers. In Washington the army and navy courted as no other class is, except the heads of the executive departments. They are, with one exception, the only permanent office holders in the country, and their social position affords them the entree into families of wealth which, in many instances, results in eligible

The army and navy circles are a close clique. They visit and associate chiefly with each other while occasionally condescending to give tone to civilian occasions, but in private they decline to place any civilian circle on the same footing as their own. As has been said. they are peculiar in having a lifetenures of office which they share with no other office holding class except the justice of the supreme court. They are distinguished even from the justices in having steady promotion always before their eyes and the possibility of supreme command. Every second lieutenant or ensign, with fourteen hundre dollars a year pay, can look forward to the time when he may head the army as chief, or the navy as admiral, with a salary of thirteen thousand dollars a year.

IN THE ARMY promotion or no promotion, every five venrs sees ten per cent added to their pay, and their allowances for quarters, commissary privileges, transportation, etc., add at least twenty per cent annually to their pay as set down in the

The officers of our army and navy are about the best paid in the world. No other one of the great nations pays anything like what we do for our soldier and sailor officers, and owing to the small proportion to the civilian population, no other people accords them the same deference. In Germany every other man met on the streets seems to be either a soldier or an officer. In England the sailors are five to one in proportion to our own. In all the great continental countries the number of army officers is infinitely greater than in America.

Washington is the headquarters of the "khife and fork and petticoat" campaigners. It is an accepted maxim in official circles that the way to rapid promotion and comfortable billets lies through the national capital, and that a winter campaign at Washington, well conducted, is worth ten in the field. Here gather, during the session of congress, hundreds of ambitious officers who are looking with envious eyes on possible vacancies and who are anxious to bring what influence they can to bear upon the chief executive in securing their own advancement. Here are collected hundreds of prominent names in army and naval annals, who entertain handsomely on their retired pay and give tone to the receptions of senators and representatives in return for what influence they can secure for friends and favorites. Here are clustered at the heads of various bureaus and divisions scores of old "soft service" campaigners who know the manual of the knife and fork much better than they do that of the pistol and sword, and whose handling of a congressional committee, over a handsome linen cloth and a fine collection of particolored wine glasses would throw in the shade the best tactical management of his company by any colonel on the GENERAL SHERIDAN

thirty different bureaus connected with the navy department in Washington alone. The head of the navy is Admiral David D. Porter, whose office is in his elegant residence at 1710 H street. Adwho commands the army, lives in the residence which was presented to him by his friends and admirers in Chimiral Porter is a medium-sized and rather portly gentleman, with full moustache and beard which is now libercago. The general has rapidly aged in ally sprinkled with grey. He draws \$13,000 a year for conducting the operathe last ten years owing to comfortable living and continual dining out. His hair is now nearly snow-white, but his tions of the department and adds considerably to his income from the work little legs still carry an erect body, and close-cropped, bullet head and grizzled of his pen. The admiral is more proud of mustache and goatee, which have for years been familiar to the country. Durthe slight success which he has gained in literature than he is of his naval record during the war. I noticed him last week standing absorbedly before a large ing working hours, which are not more protracted than necessary, the general occupies a handsome suite of rooms on bill board on Connecticut avenue, or the first floor of the war department which was printed the advertisement of McKee Rankin, who was billed to appear in "Admiral D. D. Porter's thrilling play of Allan Dare." This is the novel which was so frequently cut up by building, in which he is surrounded by his staff, who are comfortably quartered in adjoining rooms. The general is always accessible to visitors, and his good nature in this respect makes him the re-cipient of calls from hordes of bores the critics a couple of years ago, and which Admiral Porter considers one of whose only apparent aim is to secure a goood square look at little Phil. Since the most sterling works of fiction of the age. It has not proved so profitable to him as his "Naval History of the Rebelgoood square General Sheridan's name has become so lion," which was issued by subscription some twelve months since and has prominently mentioned for the presdency as the preferred candidate of many of the old refdiers, he had closed his mouth as brought in good returns in the way of tightly as a clam upon any political question, and wisely declined to commit SIX COMMODORES himself, pro and con, regarding any measures which might affect his presi-

are also stationed at Washington in charge of various bureaus where their dential chances, There it a well-defined | duties are by no means onerous. A doz-

and growing feeling at the national capital that among the few available en commanders, twenty captains with a liberal allowance of lieutenants and ensigns make up the naval contingent in men for the position of chief executive actual service. Those on shore duty and leave overtop in number those who have been fortuwho may present their claims before the next national republican convention. General Sheridan will be found with considerable latent strength.

General Richard C. Drum, the adjutant general and head of the general nate enough to find a little employment in bureaus. I was informed the other day that there were at least 200 naval officers at the national capistag, has been brought into considerable prominence recently by his advice regarding the battle flags which got tal and that this was no unusual figure for the season. During the session Washington is especially attractive to Secretary Endicott and the president into such an embarrassing dilemma last the navy, and the gold-laced sleeves and caps, which distinguish the naval officers from those of the army, are a summer. General Drum has been bravely shedding red ink for his suffering country for the past twenty-seven years. Since 1861, when drug upon the social market. There is quite a rivalry between the army and navy as to which has a presumed social he was appointed captain and assistant adjutant general, he has never heard a pre-eminence. If the marital catches drum beat or a gun fire. During the can be taken as a criterion the navy entire war he was comfortably engaged leads. There is an element of romance in staff duty on the Pacific coast, and about a life on the rolling deep which is for the past eight years he has been at peculiarly attractive to sentimental girls the head of the adjutant general's de-partment at Washington. The adjut-ant general is practically the chief clerk and which, when added to a straight figure and a handsome uniform enables the possessor to venture boldly where civilof the entire military establishment, who issues all orders for the general an angels would fear to tread. Now that there seems to be some prospect of making the United States navy someand has under his direction the general supervision of the pen and 111k matters thing more than a mere name, and of and red tape of the army. General Drum lives in a handsome residence in furnishing quarter-decks for officers to tread, in place of the office floors which Washington built in connection with they have worn into ruts for so many years, the naval contingent at Washingnavy. He entertains frequently and puts his invitations where they will do ton will at no distant day be greatly lessened. In the meantime, however, they are making the most of their ad-

The Sultan's Mother.

Constantinople Correspondence of the San Francisco Chronicle: But there are yet more potent powers behind the throne. The Valide Sultana or sultan's mother, is possessed of great influence. She always ranks first in the scraglio. A wing of the palace nearest to that of her son is set apart for her use. She possesses state apartments, has an immense train of slaves and every remark of respect is shown her, not only by her son, but by all who would curry favor at the court. It matters little what disposition a Turk may manifest toward his wives and all others who surround him he is said to be always tender and respectful to his mother—for, says he, "I may lose my child, another may be born to me; my wife may die, another fills her place but I can have but one mother." It is often found by high officers of state that they have reason to dread the interference of Valide Sultan more than that of the sultan himself.

Electricity in Pipe Welding. The proposed test of the qualities of electricity in heating wrought-iron tubing and pipe for lap welding, for which the National tube works company, of McKeesport, is preparing to remodel a large lap-weld furnace, has caused one of the best experts in this section to give an opinion to the Mc-Keesport correspondent of the Pittsburg

Dispatch. The remarks are based on a point not considered—that of insulation. In his view of the question to be decided by experiment, pipe can not be welded by the use of electricity, giving as a reason that to bring the edges of the pipe to that white heat necessary for welding the pipe would have to be heavily charged with electricity, as has been explained, and while in this condition would carry the fluid to the rolls and the housen by contact, the circuit being formed. If the rolls and housens can be insulated, then the experiment will prove satisfactory and, if not it will Trials and failures to weld wrought-iron pipe by electricity are known, and there will be no success until this drawback is remedied.



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