

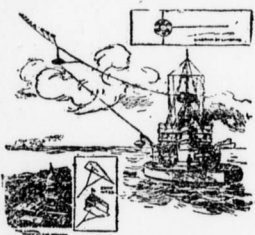
IN CASE OF WAR.

PLENTY OF HOT BLOOD IN THE UNITED STATES.

Many Cranks Write Letters to the Authorities—What Spain Has Done—Our American Navy-Kites and Cameras in Naval Warfare.

William A. Eddy, of Bayonne, N. J., has made some very interesting experiments with kites and elevated cameras. He has submitted to the Navy Department his plans for the use of this apparatus in reconnoitering from the decks of war vessels.

"I have studied men of war and the positions of their masts with great care during the last two years, and I am satisfied that on the regular armor clad ship the best position for the kites to be flown from would be the forecast and that a pulley block fastened there would lift the camera apparatus entirely beyond interference with the rigging. My plan would be to use six



Kites in Naval Warfare.

cameras set in the form of a hexagon on a circular platform, this platform to be prevented from revolving by a light boom set out from the kite string, and each camera numbered to correspond with a chart kept on the deck.

He explained that if the direction of the wind it could be instantly observed and the chart shifted to correspond. Then small photographs would be taken every few minutes by his battery of cameras and could be developed within five minutes, so that any object they showed could be observed. It would not be necessary, he says, to wait to wash and print the negatives. Should something that looked like a war ship be noticed on one of the plates it would be only necessary to send up a large camera to take a photograph in that same direction, and then it could be determined from that plate what kind of a vessel it really was.

As might be expected under the circumstances, people totally ignorant of military methods and cranks, form a large part of the overzealous patriots. One man requests the President to send him immediately a cap, belt and uniform, that he may open a recruiting office in Philadelphia. This man says he is able to command any number of men, but would be content with a captain's commission. He says he can navigate any ship afloat and is an excellent steward.

An old colored man of Alexandria, Va., says he is prepared to enlist more than seven hundred colored soldiers who fought in the late war, and asks for a colonel's commission. Many superannuated inmates of the soldiers' homes are with difficulty restraining themselves from marching in a body to Washington to tender their services to the President. An officer of the Adjutant General's office remarked on reading their letters that he feared the demands on the hospital corps would be too great to accept their tender.

An enthusiastic mechanical engineer has presented an elaborate, but impracticable, scheme for barricading harbors and rivers with fortified pontoons. Another man, ready for his country's call, styles himself a professional aeronaut of ten years' experience, "well versed in hydrogen gas and hot air balloons." He suggests the employment of large quantities of nitro-glycerine and other high explosives, to be carried up in balloons and dropped upon the decks of the enemy's ships.

That there is a great deal of hot blood in the United States with an impatient determination to support the administration if developments shall compel it to adopt a hostile attitude toward Spain is evidenced by the hundreds of letters received since the Maine disaster at the White House and the War and Navy departments offering services and suggestions.

These letters come from all sorts and conditions of men, women and children in all parts of the country. Many are from men of standing and influence whose services would be appreciated in the event of an outbreak of hostilities. Among these are officers of the National Guard organizations, who pledge their willingness and that of their entire regiments to enlist as a body in the service of the United States in case of emergency. Many medical men have tendered their services as army and navy surgeons. Men and women nurses; some of them attached to hospitals in the large cities, are begging the authorities to call upon them if needed. Scores of boys from ten to fifteen years old are clamoring for permission to enlist as drummer boys. There are numerous applications for authority to recruit volunteers. The number of former confederate soldiers who offer their services is especially large.

Spain was once the greatest nation on the globe. Say, rather she was twice so. First as a centre of learning and science under the saracenic rule, when the city of Cordova had a mile of gas-lit streets and fountains of quick silver played in the palace yard of the caliph. Second, when she was the greatest military power in Europe. If you look at the names of countries, cities and places in the western hemisphere you will realize what a grand empire Spain once was and what a power she wielded over men. But Spain could not stand the march of modern invention. She has steadily shrunk and shrivelled and lost her possessions, until now all she has left worth speaking of is Cuba. The Philippines are insignificant possessions. It is interest-

ing to know that the total population of Spain is 17,565,632. Many people, without looking up the matter, would say at a guess that Spain's population was 35,000,000 or 40,000,000. It is in reality less than 18,000,000. The area of France is only a few thousand square miles greater, and yet France has a population of very nearly 40,000,000. Texas has an area of 274,556 square miles. Spain could be laid out on Texas and Texas would have 76,686 square miles left over. The states of Pennsylvania, New York, Illinois and Alabama have more population together than has Spain and are immensely more wealthy. These states could borrow enough money with their whole field of commodities and capital behind the loan, to pay off at one sweep the whole national debt of Spain. They could raise, pay and maintain a bigger army than Spain could. Their natural resources could out-last Spain's ten to one. Their steam power is infinitely greater, and as man power can always be gaged by steam power you can imagine the difference. These four states could exist if separated from all the rest of the world.

The American navy has been distinguished throughout its history for the strictness of its discipline and the closeness of its vigilance. Not a shadow of fact has appeared that suggests even the possibility that there was any departure from that rule on the Maine. Nothing in the catastrophe so far as it has been reported affords the slightest indication of negligence on the ship, but all the circumstances point to the carefulness of the Maine's officers and crew and tend to relieve of all responsibility for the loss of the ship and suggests that no solution of mystery will be found which throws discredit on them. The officers of the American navy were never so thoroughly trained in their duties as now. The rise of new methods of naval construction, the invention of new explosives, the improvements in armament, and the many applications of scientific discoveries to ships of war, have been followed, step by step, in the training of our naval officers, until it can be said of them without reservation that nowhere in the world are their superiors to be found, if indeed, any other navy contains their equal as a whole in scientific adaptation to the conditions of modern naval warfare. More than that they are a splendid body of men, morally and physically.

Queer things happen at social functions in Washington. At a reception given recently by the Spanish minister a woman was discovered in the act of carrying off a large plate of chicken salad. She had slipped it under a rich wrap which she wore, and had proceeded as far as the outer door when a detective in the employ of the caterer headed her off. This is hardly an unusual occurrence. At the public receptions women thieves have been accustomed to steal china, silverware and even common dishes. So great has become the nuisance that the givers of the receptions no longer use their own dishes. A caterer is hired to supply everything and he also supplies detectives to watch his property. These detectives are sometimes in the disguise of maids who assist the ladies with their wraps, but more often appear as guests in proper gowns and suits. A short time ago a lady who goes in the very best Washington society was discovered stealing valuable pins from the dressers at a small private dinner. She was confronted by her hostess and said she had slipped the jewelry into her pocket so that it might not be stolen by the maids who were about the dressing room.

In the great emergency which threatens the peace of the Nation, all eyes turn instinctively to our navy. It is realized that modern war ships are to a very great extent experimental affairs and what the outcome of a great naval battle will be, no one can now tell. The head of the Navy Department, Secretary Long, is a cool, clear-headed man of affairs, capable of doing an im-



Assistant Secretary Roosevelt.

merse amount of work, and possessing a degree of deliberative judgment which will be of preeminent value to the country in case of hostilities. His first assistant is also not unknown to fame. Theodore Roosevelt demonstrated his executive ability while at the head of the New York Police Department. He possesses a decree of vigor and action, which will find plenty of room for its development.

U. S. Mail Protector.

The United States Government is sometimes served for years by valuable servants who are not even boarded at the expense of the Government. These servants are cats. Cats are one of the persistent dangers that threaten the United States mail. They destroy the bags and the mail matter. The Post Office Building in New York City is a large building, and now many years old. It is said that there are sixty cats in the building cared for by the clerks. Some of the cats have never lived anywhere else; others have come in from the neighborhood. The cats who have known only this home are very shy of strangers, and will come only to the clerks in the building. So you see that the Government is served without pay by these faithful servants who prevent the destruction by rats of valuable property, and all that is given them is shelter.

We admire the heroes of the past, but always have to have a sneaking feeling that the martyrs ought to have been smart enough to get away.

OUT FROM THE WEST

He Finds a Wife in a Pretty Girl at the "Bazaar of Nations"

A tall man with a full beard and color of old gold, and a wide-brimmed hat such as is invariably associated with the denizens of the wild west, wearing a suit of ready-made clothes with the shelf marks of an Omaha store plainly visible, got off the train as it reached the Northwestern depot at Chicago and had his gripsack checked for safe keeping in the waiting room.

"Say Mister," he said of the checks, "mebbe you's better leave that thar gun," pointing to a 44-calibre revolver, the down-pointing muzzle of which hung some inches below the tail of his short sack coat. "The police might take you in, and then you'd be fined \$50, besides conferskatin' the shooter."

"Praps you're right, pardner," said the westerner, after a minute's consideration. "I never been in a big town before; ain't exactly fly on the ways of the people. You're sure I won't need it?"

"No, you won't need it," said the check man; leastways, if you don't drink too much.

"I never drink," said the newcomer, unstrapping the formidable weapon and handing it over.

When he reached Clark street he glanced up and down admiringly at the crowded thoroughfare, thronged with wagons, street cars and people.

Setting his hat firmly on his head, the stranger stopped a hurrying man and asked: "Well, stranger?"

"Well, sir?" said the other, stopping impatiently.

"Say, can you tell me where the business part of the town is? I'm a stranger."

But the man had gone before the sentence had concluded.

"Pears to me they didn't tumble to innocent jokes," he said to himself.

Then he looked across the street and saw the signs of the Chicago museum.

"A show, hey! Well, I take that in, sure."

He bought a ticket and passed in, and was soon contemplating the pretty girls in the costumes of all nations. Round and round he walked, and all the time his wonder grew.

He glanced furtively and bashfully at the beauties in the gorgeous and becoming costumes.

"Wonder if they can talk United States?" he thought.

Finally he found a post against which he could stand, and, thus braced, he pushed his hat brim out of the way and stared long and earnestly at one of the young ladies who seemed to take his eye.

The girl was fully conscious of the admiring look, but, like a well-behaved girl, took no notice of it until after the space of some moments, when the steady gaze brought the color to her cheeks and a half smile to her face, which she attempted to hide by quickly turning about.

The girl became nervous. She attempted to dust off the front of the booth with a feather brush, but it flew from her fingers upon the floor.

The western man sprang quickly forward and handed it to her with untaught grace.

"Thank you, sir," she said, with a smile and a blush.

"Oh, can you talk American?" he asked.

"Yes, sir," she replied. "Why not?"

"Oh, I dunno; you're wearin' a fur-rin' rig, you know."

"Yes, I am an American," she said.

"Yes? Do you stay here all the time?"

"No, I live at home. I'm only here for a couple of weeks."

"I'm a stranger in town," he said.

"Indeed!"

"Yes, I live in Arizony."

"Is that far away?"

"Yes; it's lonesome for me out there sometimes."

"Why don't you live in a city?"

"Cause I got a ranch and a lot of cattle."

She looked at him with sudden respect, for she had heard of the western cattle kings.

"I was going east to see a gal," he said, after a pause. "But I don't think I'll go now."

"Why not?"

"Cause I've found one that suits me in Chicago."

"You're lucky," said the girl, smiling at the simplicity of the man. "Who is she?"

"You!"

"Oh, go on with your foolishness. You never saw me before."

"No," he said, "but I'm going to stay in Chicago and see you again. Fact is, I want a wife. I'm a plain man. If you'll marry me, say so."

"This is so sudden, and I don't know you and—"

"Never mind that. Where do you live?"

"No,—street."

"Father and mother living?"

"Father is dead. I live with my mother."

"And you come here to make a little money toward paying the rent."

"Never mind. I'm coming to see you to-night. I can convince your mother that I am able to take care of you. And I've got letters to Chicago men to show you who and what I am. If your mother will go along out, I'll be glad to have her along. Anyway, I'm going to take you."

"You are very confident, seems to me," said the young lady, who had suddenly come to think a yellow beard handsome.

To-day there is a vacancy in the "Bazaar of Nations," for one of the prettiest girls has gone, and in a neat little cottage in North Division an old lady and a girl are sewing for dear life on a serviceable bridal outfit.—London Evening News.

A Possible Explanation.

Lucy—George is very much annoyed. Mr. Hudson, who has always been his most intimate friend, never congratulated him on our engagement.

May—Mr. Hudson has the reputation of being an extremely conscientious man.—Harlem Life.

His Objection.

Gavin—One thing I like about Bunco's grocery. You can order your goods over the 'phone and after a short wait have them delivered.

Bailey—That just what I don't like.

Gavin—What?

Bailey—The short wait.

Alaskan Mining Stories.

The fairy tales of the enormous fortunes made in a few months in Alaska are in every case to be taken with a grain of salt—yes, a whole barrelful. The favorite game of the returned Alaskan miner is to carry with him a bagful of nuggets, which he displays to the bulging eyes of newspaper reporters, ever ready to grasp at an item whether it be true or false. The miner shows the bag of nuggets and invites the crowd to take a drink. The crowd and the newspaper reporters do the rest.

In every case, except perhaps one in 500, the person who shows ostentatiously the bag of nuggets is either a miner trying to sell his claims or the agent of a transportation company. The crowd gazes at the bag of gold with admiration not unmingled with awe. Finally one sides up to the man who has it and asks in a low voice, "How much, now, have you really got?" The returned miner answers with a languid air of indifference and in a confidential tone, "Oh, maybe about \$150,000!" He may or may not have \$5,000, but the tale gets into the newspapers all the same, which is what he wants.

We know of one case in which a returned miner said out and out that he had taken \$500,000 out of his Alaskan claims when as an actual fact he had taken only \$25,000. He was loaded up with mining claims which it was his business to sell to the gullible tenderfoot.

Here are some cold facts: The most money that has been made out of Alaska has been made by those who sold claims to the ignorant in the states. The whole amount of money thus far taken out of Alaska sums up, all told, not over \$2,500,000. The lies of the transportation companies and the returned miners who want to sell have swelled the total to about \$10,000,000. If there were as many rich mines there as has been represented, those who own them would be blessed clear of wanting to sell them. The awful climate and the hardship of the Alaska trip are, of course, nothing to deter a brave, robust man from going, but the disappointment apt to meet him after he gets there is something to consider very seriously.

Not So Many.

The human race today numbers 1,620,000,000 and increases eight per cent every 10 years, according to the recent report of the International Statistical Institute. The society has set its heart upon having in 1900 a joint count of human noses in all civilized nations, but various governments decline to upset their census arrangements made for other years, and the scheme has been abandoned. The figures 1,620,000,000, are not an exact count, but as close an estimate as possible by expert statisticians. Any patriotic individual, here or abroad, who fancies that this country contains the major part of mankind should compare his country's population with that of the world. In the United States we amount to about four per cent of the human race.

WHY?

Why is it that a silent partner has so much to say? Why does a man who is really good usually look so sad? Why does a loafer always bother a man when he's busy? Why do we use the term "playwright" instead of "playwriter"? Why is it that your shoestring never breaks unless you are in a hurry?

COULD NOT SLEEP.

Mrs. Pinkham Relieved Her of All Her Troubles.

Mrs. MADGE BARCOCK, 176 Second St., Grand Rapids, Mich., had ovarian trouble with its attendant aches and pains, now she is well. Here are her own words:

"Your Vegetable Compound has made me feel like a new person. Before I began taking it I was all run down, felt tired and sleepy most of the time, had pains in my back and side, and such terrible headaches all the time, and could not sleep well nights. I also had ovarian trouble. Through the advice of a friend I began the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and since taking it all troubles have gone. My monthly sickness used to be so painful, but have not had the slightest pain since taking your medicine. I cannot praise your Vegetable Compound too much. My husband and friends see such a change in me. I look so much better and have some color in my face."

Mrs. Pinkham invites women who are ill to write to her at Lynn, Mass., for advice, which is freely offered.

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NO BETTER GIFT. ONLY \$1.75 FOR THE COLUMBIAN and Demorest's Family Magazine. Send your subscriptions to this office.

Adjournment Uncertain. Impossible to Say When Board Will Finish Its Work. A Novel Case. Attorney George B. Reimensnyder went to Danville on Monday to act as master in a very novel case. A number of years ago an educational institution known as the Danville Academy was built at that place by popular subscriptions, but was afterwards sold at public sale. The court has appointed Mr. Reimensnyder to determine what institution is entitled to the money realized from the sale. It is claimed by the Presbyterian Church, Y. M. C. A., and the school board of that place.—Sunbury Daily.

It has developed through telegraphic correspondence between Secretary Long and Admiral Sicaud that the court of inquiry is unable to fix even an approximate date for the conclusion of its investigation into the disaster to the "Maine."

Sharing the general anxiety for some information on this point Secretary Long, at the instance of the cabinet, sent a telegram to Admiral Sicaud asking him when it was expected that the report of the court would be made and the following reply was received: "Have talked with the president of the court of inquiry and agree with him that it is not yet possible to fix a date for the finding, as much depends upon the progress of the divers and wreckers and the results they obtain. Every effort is being made to advance the inquiry. The court returns to Havana by the 'Mangrove' this evening, having about finished the examination at Key West."

HAVE YOU A SKIN DISEASE?—Tetter, Salt Rheum, Scald Head, Ringworm, Eczema, Itch, Barber's Itch, Ulcers, Blisters, Chronic Erysipelas, Liver Spots, Pustules, Psoriasis, or other eruptions of the skin—what Dr. Agnew's Ointment has done for others it can do for you—cure you. One application gives relief.—35 cents.—19. Sold by C. A. Klein.

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