

OUR COAST SIGNALS.

IMPOSSIBLE FOR A HOSTILE SHIP TO APPROACH UNOBSERVED.

Over Two Thousand Observers from Bar Harbor to Galveston on Duty—Reports from Stations Received Daily—How the System Works.

Washington, May 24.—After several weeks of work along the entire stretch of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, the navy department has completed the most comprehensive and efficient system for observing the approach of a hostile fleet that has ever been put into operation. A new bureau has been created for this purpose, known as the Coast Signal Service, in charge of Captain Bartlett, who attends to this as well as the naval board of information. The system has the services of 2,300 men stretched along the coast from Bar Harbor, Me., to Galveston, Tex. These are divided into thirty-four central stations about sixty to one hundred miles apart. The stations are in turn connected by telegraph with the coast signal office of the navy department, and operators are on duty night and day keeping the navy department in constant telegraphic touch with the entire stretch of Atlantic and Gulf coasts.

Secretary Long projected this plan a month ago, and \$75,000 was set aside to establish the points of observation along the coast. After selecting the 34 central points from Maine to Texas, rush orders were given to build observation towers and towers for the observers. The naval militia was drawn to man the different observation towers, and five militiamen, with the rank of naval quartermasters, are now on duty at each of these stations. The towers are completed and also the small houses for their living purposes. There are 223 of these militiamen now in service.

Other Assistance.

The next step was to have the light-house service made an adjunct to this coast observation. This was done through the co-operation of the treasury department, and the lighthouse force of 1,200 men, scattered from Maine and Texas, is assisting the work of observation. The life saving service was brought into similar co-operation, so that 1,000 life savers are added to the observation force. The thirty-four central stations, with the numerous lighthouses and life saving stations, make a complete chain of observation points, all connected by telegraph or telephone with one another and with the navy department.

By arrangement with the telegraph companies the reports from these observers take precedence over the private telegraphic business, so that the navy department is enabled to get immediate telegraphic notice of the approach of any hostile fleet or suspicious ship.

Work Thoroughly Systematized.

The work of observation has been thoroughly systematized. Watches are kept in the towers throughout the day and night. The life saving crews in particular are assigned to night duty, and they patrol the beach throughout the night, on the lookout for approaching ships. All the central points and the observers have been supplied with telescopes and full appliances for marine observation. They are also supplied with torches, rockets and other paraphernalia for signaling.

The results already secured have shown the efficiency of the plans adopted. Naval vessels passing along the coast are able to signal day or night by torches and otherwise with the naval observers along the beach and these signals are immediately telegraphed to the navy department here. Thus the naval vessels can be kept in constant communication with the department without the necessity of coming into port.

With the system in its present perfected condition the navy department feels assured that it knows exactly the condition of affairs along the entire stretch of Atlantic and Gulf coasts. The system is simply a precautionary one, as the department has had no reason to believe that Spanish ships were menacing points along the coast.

It is further believed that Spain is endeavoring to transfer important interests in the Philippines in a way to bring foreign influences to bear for the purpose of restraining the operations of this government. Altogether the Philippines are now regarded as the key to the situation, their possession involving great interests and possibly most important events in the future.

It is said that there is not the least doubt or hesitation on the part of the administration with respect to the policy to be pursued and that possession is to be taken of the entire group of islands.

Martial Honors for Soldiers Dead.

Tampa, Fla., May 25.—There was a military funeral under the pines of Lakeland yesterday, when the body of Wesley S. Brass, Company I, Second Massachusetts, who died of pneumonia, was sent North. His company was detailed to escort the body to the train, but every other company in the regiment volunteered to march behind it also, and all the citizens in Lakeland lined the sandy streets and stood with heads uncovered as it passed.

Spain's New Foreign Minister.

Madrid, May 25.—Duke Almodovar de Rio has accepted the portfolio of minister for foreign affairs, offered to but declined by Senor Leon y Castillo, the Spanish ambassador at Paris.

The duke said that he did not desire the office, but that he accepted it on patriotic grounds.

Irishmen Against An Alliance.

Chicago, May 25.—The United Irish Societies of Chicago, at a big mass meeting in Central Music Hall, presided over by John M. Smyth, a prominent merchant, adopted resolutions emphatically condemning the suggested alliance between the United States and Great Britain.

The Onelda Going to Key West.

Philadelphia, May 25.—The dispatch boat Onelda, which came into the Delaware Breakwater for coal, sailed yesterday morning after having her bunkers filled. It is said that the Onelda is on her way to Key West. The auxiliary cruiser Yankee is still at the breakwater.

MINNIE HAUCK'S DEBUT.

The Prima Donna Reveals Her First Venture on the Stage.

Minnie Hauck, the famous prima-donna, has written the following interesting account of her first appearance on the stage. She is now living a retired life in Germany, for her days of vocal triumph are over, and she looks back with special pride to the first faltering steps in her long and successful career. She writes:

"I was just about six years old when I made my first appearance on the stage. This was in Kansas City, where I was then living with my mother in one of the peculiar hotels of that time. To-day Kansas City is a town of 200,000 inhabitants. In those days it was a village, with many of the characteristics of a backwoods town. In the hotel at which we were stopping, all the theatrical companies were wont to come and it was an occasion of intense pleasure for me to sit at the long dining table and listen to the conversation of the actor folk of that time.

"So when I was about six years old there came to Kansas City a company of actors who had arranged to give a performance of a popular play called 'The Golden Farmer.' In this play there was a part for a child of six. It was rather long and full of sentiment. It so happened that while we were sitting at the table the director turned to my mother and told her that the play would probably not be produced that night as the little girl cast for the child's part had been taken ill. I can't tell what prompted me to speak but I begged the director to let me act as a substitute. He told me it was impossible as it had taken weeks to train the other child and he felt certain that I could not learn the words in the few hours left before the curtain went up. I begged so piteously that he finally consented to let me make a trial of it.

"For two hours I went through the part in the hotel parlor and when the curtain finally went up on the play and the cue came for me to go on, all nervousness left me and I acted the part with the feeling of an adept.

"I was called before the curtain four times and made a tremendous hit. The director begged my mother to let me travel with the company, but she refused, and that night I remember when I went to bed I put my arms around her neck and whispered 'I will go on the stage, mother, and become a great actress.' Since then I have appeared many times before the public in all the great capitals of the world, but I can never forget the happiness that followed upon the heels of that first triumph."

Jogging His Memory.

One day a little girl accompanied her mother on a shopping expedition. At one of the shops they were about to visit the proprietor was in the habit of presenting the child with a doll. As they approached the shop the little one appeared to be very uneasy.

"Mamma," said she, "suppose Mr. Brown forgets my doll."

"Oh, he won't forget," said the lady, reassuringly.

"But if he does," persisted the child.

"Well, then," said mamma, "we must jog his memory."

They entered the shop, and the lady was soon deeply engrossed in her bargain-hunting business. After this was completed to her satisfaction she turned to go, whereupon the little one clambered on to a chair and tapped the proprietor rather smartly on the head with her tiny parasol. "Whatever are you doing, you naughty girl!" exclaimed the mother.

"I'm jogging his 'remember,'" said the child.

Don't Wear Night Dresses.

A New Yorker who visited Canada some time ago made a trip through one of the North-Western Territories and spent a time as the guest of a rancher.

"I fixed him up as well as I could," the rancher relates, "but he complained that he did not like sleeping with his clothes on. So after the first night I stretched a cowskin across the shack, and told him he might undress if he liked. He took off most of his garments and put on a long white night-dress. In the morning my foreman came in while the gentleman was still sleeping. Observing the white night-dress, he said, in a whisper:

"Rather sudden—eh?"

"What? I asked.

"The death of the old man."

"He's not dead—he's asleep," I explained.

"Then what's he wearin' them b'iled clothes for?" was the reply.

"Never saw a chup laid out in b'iled clothes afore, 'cept he were dead."

The Kind of Wife to Have.

A man who had been indulging too heavily since the New Year was induced to sign the pledge.

"You must let me have it," said the wife. "I will keep it for you." So the pledge was handed over to the wife's custody.

The next day the man was drinking again as freely as before.

"How is this?" asked a friend. "You signed the pledge yesterday, and now you are drinking again."

"It is all right," replied the pledge-signer in unsteady tones. "I don't have to keep that pledge. My wife says she will keep it for me. That's the kind of wife to have, old fellow. Let's have a drink!"

Digson—"I once possessed a splendid dog, who could always distinguish between a vagabond and a respectable person."

Jigson—"Well, what's become of him?"

Digson—"Oh, I was obliged to give him away. He bit me!"

EDWARD BELLAMY PASSES AWAY.

The Author of "Looking Backward" Dies After a Lingered Illness.

Springfield, Mass., May 23.—Edward Bellamy, author of "Looking Backward," "Equality," etc., died at his home in Chicopee Falls Sunday morning.

Mr. Bellamy had been ill with pulmonary trouble for a long time. His labors on his book "Equality," undermined a very serious phase last fall. Mr. Bellamy went to Denver, Col., to live with his brother, Frederick P. Bellamy, thinking the Colorado climate would prove beneficial. When he saw that his death was but the question of a few weeks, he returned to Chicopee Falls, his old home.

It is rare indeed that a man's name becomes a household word and remains so for ten years, on the reputation of one book. "Looking Backward" was the popular success of the year in which it was published, 1887, and there



EDWARD BELLAMY.

has been a steady demand for it ever since. The book has had an enormous sale, so great that it has been estimated that the copies sold would make a ring around the earth, placed side by side. Mr. Bellamy never traded on his sudden popularity. He did not bring out a slipshod book in six months and sell it on the strength of the first success. He wrote nothing for ten years and then he produced "Equality," a sequel and continuation of "Looking Backward."

Mr. Bellamy was born in 1850 at Chicopee Falls, Mass., which has always been his home. The village is now absorbed into the city of Chicopee. He lived in his old home, which was long the home of his father before him, a plain, comfortable house. His father was a Baptist clergyman, very highly thought of in the town.

Mr. Bellamy entered Union College, in Schenectady, but did not graduate. He spent a year in Germany and then studied law, but never practiced. Instead he became a newspaper man, afterward a literateur. He was a member of the staffs of the New York Evening Post, the Springfield Union and other papers.

His earliest works were "Doctor Heldenhof's Process," "Miss Ludington's Sister," and many short stories in leading magazines.

These works all possessed distinct literary value, especially the short stories, many of which were exquisite, but all have been overshadowed and forgotten in the success of "Looking Backward."

Mr. Bellamy was one of the most modest and retiring of men. After his first phenomenal success a thousand opportunities for notoriety were afforded him. Offers for lecture engagements, requests for magazine articles on his own subjects and at his own terms, inducements to send his old stories afloat upon the full sea of public favor—all were declined.

He used everything in an effort to benefit the struggling masses and died as poor as he was before he achieved his great success. Much of his money was expended in an effort to make a practical demonstration of his socialistic ideas, by means of a colony which he founded.

GOVERNMENT WANTS TRANSPORTS.

Will Not Submit to Extortion and Will Exercise Sovereign Power.

Washington, May 25.—As to the Philippines, the acute stage has been reached. The government will, if necessary, immediately impress into service vessels under American registry.

The government of the United States is determined, peacefully if it can, forcibly, if it must, to put United States troops aboard boats at San Francisco and to land these troops at Manila.

Assistant Secretary of War McKelike, consenting to the use of his name, said that the government had every disposition to be reasonable and fair in its compensation for transportation of troops to the Philippines, but one thing might as well be distinctly understood—that these troops had to be taken across the Pacific and put at the service of General Merritt.

"We paid the City of Pekin \$30,000," said the assistant secretary, "and we have not been unwilling to pay other boats at the rate of \$1,000 per day. We think that is fair, but we are not willing to be duped.

"We fully realize the gravity of the situation, and we have been doing the best we could; hence I authorize you to say that after reasonable advances by the government shall have been exhausted we propose to impress such boats as we may need."

HAWAIIAN ANNEXATION.

The Resolution, It is Said, Will Come Before the House.

Washington, May 25.—Speaker Reed has about given up his fight against Hawaii, and announces that he will allow the annexation resolution to come before the House before the week ends.

At a conference yesterday Congressman Tawney of Minnesota showed him a canvass of the House showing very few members who would confess that they were opposed to annexation.

The argument seems to have had its effect upon the speaker, and it is now expected that the House will pass the resolution before the first of June, and that it will go to the Senate at once.

To Fortify Gibraltar Bay.

Gibraltar, May 24.—It is stated that the Spanish government purposes fortifying the ports of Gibraltar bay belonging to Spain.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MOTHERS.

WE ARE ASSERTING IN THE COURTS OUR RIGHT TO THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE WORD "CASTORIA," AND "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," AS OUR TRADE MARK.

I, DR. SAMUEL PITCHER, of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of "CASTORIA," the same that has borne and does now bear the fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher on every the original "CASTORIA" which has been used in the homes of the Mothers of America for over thirty years.

LOOK CAREFULLY at the wrapper and see that it is the kind you have always bought and has the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher on the wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company, of which Chas. H. Fletcher is President. March 24, 1898.

Samuel Pitcher M.D.

Do Not Be Deceived.

Do not endanger the life of your child by accepting a cheap substitute which some druggist may offer you (because he makes a few more pennies on it), the ingredients of which even he does not know.

"The Kind You Have Always Bought" BEARS THE SIGNATURE OF

Chas. H. Fletcher

Insist on Having The Kind That Never Failed You.

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 27 MURRAY STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

"East, west, home is best," if kept clean with

SAPOLIO

STOVE NAPHTHA, the Cheapest and Best Fuel on the market. With it you can run a Vapor Stove for one-half cent per hour. Give us a call and be convinced.

W. O. Holmes, Eshleman & Wolf, L. E. Wharey, W. F. Hartman, Bloomsburg, Pa.

School Children to Take Part.

A national movement has been inaugurated by which it is expected to replace the Maine with a new vessel. It originated in Cincinnati by a boy named W. R. Good, who conceived the idea of having the school children of the nation raise a fund sufficient to build a new vessel, which it is proposed to call the "American Boy." The movement claims to have the hearty approval of leading naval authorities.

Impure Blood in Spring.

This is the almost universal experience. Diminished perspiration during winter, rich foods and close confinement indoors are some of the causes. A good Spring Medicine, like Hood's Sarsaparilla, is absolutely necessary to purify the blood and put the system in a healthy condition at this season.

Hood's Pills are the best family cathartic and liver tonic. Gentle, reliable, sure.

So brightly blazes martial ardor at Thordike, Me., that the local correspondent of the Belfast Age is unable to hold to his theme of spring, but breaks forth: "We not only hear the sweet warbling of birds to remind us that spring has come, but that terrible scream of the American eagle, warning us that an insolent foe has not only dared to pollute the fair valley of freedom with his vile and barbarous tread, beneath whose poisonous footsteps the young plants of liberty are sure to wither and die, but has drawn largely from Uncle Sam's stores, polluted his flag and unwittingly spilled American blood. These Spanish savages, reptiles in the path of progressive democracy, must be whipped into civilization; they have no right to the blessings of barbarism, at least on this side of the Atlantic."

The Canary Islands belonging to Spain, which will undoubtedly be forfeited to Uncle Sam, consist of 7 islands, embracing an area of 3,256 sq. m. Tenerife is the most important of the group, where the Spanish governor resides. This island is celebrated for the Peak of Teyde, or Tenerife 11,400 ft. above the level of the sea. The climate is hot, but healthful. They were taken from the French in 1400. Population 239,598.

This Will Interest Pensioners.

A case has just been decided in the supreme court by Judge Dwight which will be of interest to pensioners. It appears that Mrs. Ann Costello, of Marengo, the widow of a pensioner of the late war, was indebted to Luther A. Smith, of that place in the sum of \$200. Mr. Smith succeeded in getting his claim into an execution, and last summer attempted to sell Mrs. Costello's home to satisfy the execution. Mrs. Costello brought suit against Smith and the sheriff of Wayne county, through her attorney, De L. Stow, of Clyde, to restrain them selling the property. The case was tried before Judge Dwight at Lyons in January last. The court has just granted an injunction forever restraining the sale of the property.

Sign No Papers With Strangers.

Several new swindles are being worked on the farmers this year, but all of them end with a request for the intended victim's signature on a paper for some reason or other. It is always a safe rule to refuse to sign your name to any document submitted to you by a stranger.

"Short, Sharp and Decisive."

Chairman Dingley's estimate that the war will cost our government \$2,000,000 a day is, of course, merely an instance of rough figuring, yet it sets forth a very good reason in itself, if there were none better, for making the campaign short, shary and decisive.—Philadelphia Record.

The pet name in Spain for the inhabitants of the United States is "American swine." There is no language so rich in abusive epithets as Spanish, and at present it is taxed to its utmost limits to convey the feelings toward us of those who speak the tongue on its native soil in all its juicy glory.

It doesn't give the farmer By the seashore any ease To think the Spanish ships may come And help him shell his peas.

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher

Fine PHOTO-GRAPHS and CRAYONS at McKillip Bros., Bloomsburg. The best are the cheapest.



TID-BITS FOR MA' HONEY! and tender little juicelets for the children, are all right, but papa and "the boys" want a good, big, juicy steak, roast or chop when business or school duties are over, and we can cater to them all. Our stock of prime meats is unexcelled for quality, and we send them home in fine shape. J. E. KEFFER.

THE MARKETS.

Table with market prices for various goods like Butter, Eggs, Lard, etc.

Advertisement for The Leading Conservatory of America, featuring New England Conservatory of Music.

Advertisement for Johnson's Belladonna Plaster, featuring an illustration of a person.

Advertisement for PATENTS, including information about the U.S. Patent Office and legal services.

Advertisement for PARKER'S HAIR BALM, describing its benefits for hair.