

INVENTED BY TESLA.

A Device That May Render Fleets and Guns Useless.

It is Alleged to Be a Powerful Destroyer, and Distance is Said to Have No Effect on Its Magic Results.

[Special New York Letter.]

Nicola Tesla, greatest of living electricians, is still a young man. He was born in the ancient kingdom of Servia, 35 years ago, and combines with the enthusiasm of the Slav the dogged persistence of the same race.

It is said—whether truthfully or not, I cannot tell, that the wizard soon grew weary of the young man's genius and suggested that his room would be more agreeable than his company.



NICOLA TESLA, THE WORLD'S GREATEST ELECTRICIAN.

Hence he labored and toiled on lesser devices, which brought him the means of carrying on his greater operations. And now he has broken his silence by announcing to the world the perfection of an engine which, if it does but half he claims for it, will revolutionize modern warfare and completely change the position of nations.

Mr. Tesla's invention, to describe it in a few words, consists in an application of electricity whereby, without interposition of any artificial medium of communication, one man can control and direct with absolute exactness the movements of any type of vessel, balloon or land vehicle at any distance that may be desired.

"War will cease to be possible when all the world knows that the most feeble of nations can supply itself with a weapon which renders its coast secure and its ports impregnable to the assaults of even the united armadas of the world.

Hitherto the only means of controlling the movement of a vessel from a distance has been supplied through the medium of a flexible conductor, such as an electric cable, but this system, according to Tesla, is subject to many limitations, such as are imposed by the length, weight and strength of the conductor, by the difficulty of maintaining with safety the high speed of a vessel or changing the direction of its movements with rapidity, by the necessity of effecting the control from a point which is practically fixed, and from

many other drawbacks which are inseparably connected with such a system.

Tesla's plan seems to involve none of these objections. He is enabled by the use of his invention to employ any means of propulsion, to impart to the moving body or vessel the highest possible speed, to control the operation of its machinery, and to direct its movements from either a fixed point or from a body moving and changing its direction, however rapidly, and to maintain this control over great distances without artificial connections between the vessel and the apparatus governing its movement and without such restrictions as these must necessarily impose.

Having made these experiments, Tesla proceeded to demonstrate his theories by means of a model which he exhibited to a representative of the New York Herald.

Elevated on stools in the center of the inventor's laboratory was a model of a screw-propelled craft about four feet long, no attempt having been made to follow the usual sharp lines of a torpedo boat. The deck was slightly arched and surmounted by three slender standards, the center one being considerably higher than the other two, which carried small incandescent bulbs, a third bulb being fixed at the bow.

from the distant operating station, which set in motion the propelling and steering motors, and through them light or extinguish the electric lamps and fire the exploding charge in a chamber in the bow in response to signals sent by the operator.

"Now watch," said the inventor, and, going to a table on the other side of the room, on which lay a little switch box, he gave the lever a sharp turn. Instantly the little propeller began to revolve.

"During the day," explained Tesla, "we should steer our course by keeping the two standards in line, but at night we should depend on electric lights," and at a signal both the tiny bulbs were illuminated.

"Now we will assume," continued the inventor, "that the boat has arrived within striking distance of the vessel to be destroyed, and the bulb in the bow will serve to show that the explosion has taken place."

Mr. Tesla further claims that it is not even necessary to make a close approach to the vessel to be destroyed. At a distance of 100 feet the explosion of 200 pounds of dynamite will exert a shattering effect on a battleship, and 200 or 300 tons of the explosive, when exploded even a mile away would raise a wave that would overwhelm the largest and strongest ship ever built.

Mr. Tesla contemplates giving a public demonstration of his invention at the Paris exposition, where he intends to exhibit a model of a torpedo boat whose movements are to be directed from his office at New York.

Stranger—I should think such an enterprising, public-spirited citizen as Mr. Goodman will be nominated for some important office in this community.

Brakeman (on southern railroad)—Passengers is not allowed on th' platform, sir, when the train is in motion.

Passenger—Beg pardon; I will go in. I did not notice that the train was in motion.—N. Y. Weekly.

SAMPSON TALKS.

Comments on Some Incidents of the Santiago Campaign.

He Claims that Gen. Shafter Expected Too Much of the Blockading Fleet and Did Not Properly Recognize the Navy in the Hour of Final Triumph.

Washington, Dec. 1.—The navy department yesterday made public a report from Admiral Sampson covering the operations of the blockading fleet off Santiago after the destruction of Cervera's squadron. The report begins with a dispatch dated July 15, and winds up with one dated Guantanamo, August 4.

Shafter replied that he could not tell when he could take the batteries. If they were as difficult as those against which he was pitted it would take some time and a great loss of life.

An hour later on the same day, July 2, Shafter again appealed to Sampson to immediately force the harbor entrance, so as to avoid future loss among his men, already very heavy.

He promised to use mines at Guantanamo to countermine those at Santiago, which would consume considerable time.

Admiral Sampson gives a number of dispatches showing that he was asked to participate in the terms of surrender and tried to find out when he should send a representative, but owing to one or two delays no time was fixed.

Washington, Dec. 3.—In view of a published statement that a committee of the Anglo-American commission had accepted the recommendations of a United States naval commission as to the building of warships on the great lakes, Lord Herschell and Senator Fairbanks, representing all parties on the commission, say: "The statement that an agreement has been arrived at by the sub-committee appointed to consider the question of naval vessels on the great lakes is incorrect. The matter is still under discussion."

New York, Dec. 3.—George S. Martin, Charles S. Grill and W. S. Cutler, said to be members of the Worthington gang, one of the most notorious gangs of real estate swindlers in the country, were arrested Friday and locked up in the Tombs on charges of swindling. The police have been after them for over a year.

Savannah, Dec. 3.—The Second division of the Seventh army corps, the Second division hospital corps and the signal corps of the Seventh corps have been ordered to move as soon as possible from Savannah to Havana.

Chicago, Dec. 3.—Buffalo yesterday became a member of the Western League of baseball clubs. The papers were signed by President Johnson on behalf of the Western league and by James Franklin on behalf of the Buffalo club.

San Francisco, Dec. 1.—Thomas Regalado, the head of the revolutionary government in Salvador, has usurped the presidency and proclaimed himself chief executive of the republic.

THE EVACUATION OF CUBA.



PICKED UP A PRIZE.

British Steamer Tows into Port a Dismissed Ship Containing a Valuable Cargo.

Philadelphia, Dec. 3.—The British steamship Marston Moor, which sailed from Baltimore November 9 for Rotterdam, arrived at Delaware Breakwater Friday, having in tow one of the richest prizes picked up at sea for some time.

TIN PLATE COMBINE.

It Will Have a Capital of \$50,000,000 and Control the Trade in this Country.

Pittsburg, Dec. 3.—Representatives of all of the tin plate manufacturing concerns in America met here Friday for the purpose of arranging preliminary details of the combination that is to unite all the tin plate interests on this side of the Atlantic.

A Hard Blow at Bucket Shops.

Chicago, Dec. 3.—On charges of using the United States mails to carry on a scheme to defraud patrons in bucket shop deals, four persons, formerly belonging to or connected with the firm of which W. R. Hennig was the head, and including Hennig, were sentenced and fined yesterday before Judge Grosscup.

An Official Denial.

Washington, Dec. 3.—In view of a published statement that a committee of the Anglo-American commission had accepted the recommendations of a United States naval commission as to the building of warships on the great lakes, Lord Herschell and Senator Fairbanks, representing all parties on the commission, say: "The statement that an agreement has been arrived at by the sub-committee appointed to consider the question of naval vessels on the great lakes is incorrect. The matter is still under discussion."

Alleged Swindlers Arrested.

New York, Dec. 3.—George S. Martin, Charles S. Grill and W. S. Cutler, said to be members of the Worthington gang, one of the most notorious gangs of real estate swindlers in the country, were arrested Friday and locked up in the Tombs on charges of swindling.

Lee's Troops Ordered to Havana.

Savannah, Dec. 3.—The Second division of the Seventh army corps, the Second division hospital corps and the signal corps of the Seventh corps have been ordered to move as soon as possible from Savannah to Havana.

Buffalo Joins the Western League.

Chicago, Dec. 3.—Buffalo yesterday became a member of the Western League of baseball clubs. The papers were signed by President Johnson on behalf of the Western league and by James Franklin on behalf of the Buffalo club.

MADE BIG GAINS.

Iron and Steel Trade Shows Large Improvement, Orders for 700,000 Tons of Rails Being Given This Week.

New York, Dec. 3.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: The report of failures for November is extremely gratifying because it shows not only a decrease in number and a smaller amount of liabilities than in any other month excepting three summer months since the monthly record began, but because careful analysis shows a striking improvement both in the small and in the large failures, and in nearly all classes of industry and trade.

Washington, Dec. 3.—It can be stated positively that no hitch has occurred in the proceedings of the peace commission at Paris, and an impression to the contrary in certain quarters probably arose through a misunderstanding of the phase those proceedings have reached.

Cubans Visit the President.

Washington, Dec. 3.—The members of the Cuban commission, headed by Gen. Garcia, called at the White House Friday and were received by the president. The meeting was entirely unofficial in character. It lasted an hour and a half.

Naval Militiamen's Convention.

Philadelphia, Dec. 3.—The annual meeting of the Association of Naval Militia of the United States met here Friday on board the receiving ship St. Louis, representatives being present from 12 states. The day was given to a general discussion of the advisability of forming a naval reserve of a national character.

THE MARKETS.

Financial.

New York, Dec. 3.—Money on call 2 3/4 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 3 1/2 to 4 1/4 per cent. Sterling exchange steady at 48 1/2 to 48 3/4 for demand and 48 1/2 to 48 3/4 for 60 days.

Grain, Provisions and Live Stock.

Flour—Active for spring patents. Wheat—No. 2 red 75 1/2 to 77 1/2. Corn—No. 2 at 40 1/2. Oats—No. 2 at 32. Butter—Western creamery 15 1/2 to 16. Hogs—Slaughter 14.50 to 15.00, oxen and stags 13.12 to 14.80, veals 4.00 to 5.75.

Oil—Unchanged.

Chicago, Dec. 3.—Wheat—December 65 1/2. Corn—December 34 1/2. Oats—December 20 1/2. Pork—December 19.25. Lard—December 15.15. Ribs—December 14.65. Hogs—Light 13.30 to 14.25, heavy 13.25 to 13.50, rough 13.25 to 13.50, Yorkers 13.35 to 13.40.

Oil Market.

Oil City, Dec. 3.—Credit balances 1.15. Certificates opened at 1.12 1/2 bid for cash; no other bids; no sales.

HUMAN GASBAGS.

Spain's Diplomats are Prize Winners in this Role.

ANOTHER DAY OF DELAY.

Dons Claim to Lack Instructions on Various Points.

TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER.

Spain Waits for a Better Offer for the Caroline Group of Islands than the Americans May Make and Germany is a Factor in the Deal.

Paris, Dec. 3.—Friday's session of the peace commission was a repetition virtually of several earlier meetings. When, after two hours of discussion the Spaniards were pressed for definite statements, they pleaded that they had not received instructions from Madrid.

The Spaniards' version of Friday's session is that they asked to have the treaty concluded first and then the minor matters discussed. According to reports from American sources the Spanish commissioners endeavored to draw hints as to how far the Americans were willing to compromise the demands under discussion without disclosing what concessions Spain was willing to make.

As the negotiations proceed the prospects of consuming much time increase. Several very important propositions, presenting many phases, invite discussion and must afterwards be embodied in the agreements. This task of embodying may be long drawn out, every word requiring consideration.

On the questions yet unsettled which do not concern territory or financial interests, both commissions display anxiety to promote the welfare of the inhabitants involved.

Washington, Dec. 3.—It can be stated positively that no hitch has occurred in the proceedings of the peace commission at Paris, and an impression to the contrary in certain quarters probably arose through a misunderstanding of the phase those proceedings have reached.

These objects have been stated in the cablegrams from Paris, namely, the acquisition of one of the Caroline islands as a cable and coaling station; of certain rights to land cables on Spanish possessions at other points; the procurement of freedom of religious worship in the Carolines, and the revival of certain treaties of trade and commerce, etc.

Moreover, while Spain was the subject of peremptory demands in the case of the protocol points, she is free of compulsion now while these diplomatic exchanges are in progress. She may sell to the United States one of the Caroline islands or may refuse to do so, and, moreover, if we buy islands it must be at a price satisfactory to Spain.

The statement that Spain has refused to sell us Ceuta, opposite Gibraltar, for a coal and cable station is inaccurate; the United States government has not made any proposition for the acquisition of that island.

The case is different respecting the Carolines. The American naval experts have urged very strongly that this group be retained and in addition that the Pelew group, lying to the westward, be purchased. They have pointed out that the southwest island of the Ladrone group, Walon, lies only 200 miles north of Ponape, in the Carolines, and the Pelew islands are only about 600 miles distant from the Philippines.

Moreover, the vast bulk of trade in that quarter of the world passes through the natural channel between the Ladrone and the Carolines, of which the United States would have command.

If Germany is able to outbid the United States for these islands she may obtain them, but a suspicion is entertained that the naming of \$2,000,000 was inspired by a friendly desire to make the best possible terms for Spain from the United States, by raising the price of the goods. One of the pledges which is almost as good as a treaty obligation in its force even now, is that the United States, in return for the release of the political prisoners from Cuba and Porto Rico, held by Spain, will secure the release of the Spanish prisoners held by Aguinaldo.