

**FULL OF GREAT GUNS**

WHERE UNCLE SAM'S RIFLED CANNON ARE MANUFACTURED.

Setting ready to make a great navy—our new navy yards—interesting relics of historic conflicts—The life of a battleship—Patriotic pride.

Washington, July 8.—The navy yard is one of the most striking sights of Washington. The correspondent puts in a day there soon after his assignment here and as a rule never goes near it again. The average congressman visits it once for his own sake and occasionally thereafter to show it to visiting constituents. The visitors who really enjoy it are the tourists from the great interior, nine out of ten of whom never saw an ocean vessel in their lives or a cannon larger than the ordinary fiddlers which country towns utilize for the Fourth of July and other patriotic occasions. And how they do enjoy it! The lively and rolling ship and its neatly uniformed crews fill them with admiration. They swell with pride over the captured can-



GATEWAY TO THE NAVY YARD.

non, look with curiosity on the guns ranged to illustrate the progress of the country and are speechless with astonishment at the wonderful machinery which turns out the rifled cannon—machinery which seems to move so easily and yet requires so many thousands of horsepower.

The ride to the navy yard is quite a pleasure in itself. The cable line on Pennsylvania avenue turns south on East Eighth street and terminates at the entrance to the yard. The visitor is at first charmed with the magnificent gateway which looks monolithic, but is not, and is really a wall of the sentinel, who is impressive in blue and white and stands as stiffly as if he had swallowed one of the rammers. The general silence about the place is almost oppressive. The rules governing the yard amount to quite a code, and in addition to stringent regulations against loud talk or swearing or unnecessary noise there is an explicit instruction to every one a duty to hold no conversation whatever except in the line of duty. Even in most of the workshops there is comparatively little noise, everything running with what might be called a ponderous smoothness. The one exception is in the great hall where the rifled cannon are manufactured. It is the nature of man to respect power whether in the machine or the human being, and I know of no other place where everything seems to move with such resistless force.

Overhead the great train car, with its massive trusses of iron beams and clamps and girder loops, moves backward and forward with an energy which seems as if it were beyond control, and yet the engineer who sits in the iron cage attached can stop or start it with a touch of his finger. I shall not weary the reader by describing the long guns of steel and nickel, weighing even so many tons, which are so easily raised and lowered by the machinery of this train car, nor the great engines, if I may call them such, which bear out the guns, seeming to move with the most gentle persuasiveness and yet tearing off the delicate shavings of steel and nickel with a power which really fascinates the beholder. For shall I attempt a description of the shaft for various reasons. It would take me at least three months to master the subject and probably another month to put it into simple English, after which the ordinary reader would require three months or so to understand it, by which time some of us would be dead or prostrated with brain fog.

These navy yards and stations are at Norfolk, Brooklyn, Mare Island, near San Francisco; League Island, near Philadelphia; Portsmouth, N. H.; Boston, New London, Groton, Port Royal, S. C., and Seattle, the last three being regarded as mere naval stations. There are a training ship and torpedo station at Newport, R. I., and minor establishments elsewhere. The Naval War College at Newport, R. I. was formally opened a few weeks ago by Assistant Secretary of the Navy William McAdoo. The general result of all the work done at all these places and in the various shipyards is thus summed up by Mr. McAdoo at the close of the fiscal year 1894: "The United States, while it does not possess a great navy in the number of battleships, has within its limits colossal plants, both public and private, and great armies of skilled workmen, led by contractors, designers and inventors of marvellous ability. It is therefore essentially and substantially capable of national defense, and, if need be, of offense, operations." The general summary of every naval report of this year is that we are just ready to make a great navy and to make it quickly.

History is taught at this navy yard by object lessons, and the lessons are fascinating indeed. First is the progress in ordnance marked shown by the old guns ranged in their order from the oldest pieces manufactured out by the blacksmiths of colonial times and coming down or up through all the changes wrought by the Revolution, the second war with Great Britain and the Barbary, Mexican and civil wars. Some of the old guns look like mere unconvincing lumps of metal, bearing a ludicrous resemblance to the toy guns which boys sometimes manufacture of lead on the Irishman's principle—"take a hole and pour the lead around it." The old mortars which find their shot into the cities of the Barbary coast look like big kettles with somewhat raised sides, and to the ordinary civilian eye it would seem impossible to give any designed direction to a shot from one of them. The Algerines had captured various pieces from the French and Spaniards in the century before we went to war with them, and it was our good fortune to capture some of those pieces, which are

**FAULTS OF BEGINNERS.**

Rapid playing in Primary Grades—Play Slowly if You Hope to Play Fast.

One of the faults of piano pupils in primary grades is too rapid playing. Once assumed, great difficulties will follow. This is the fault of the teacher. It is surprising how few teachers fully appreciate the necessity of slower practice or playing. The foundation of runs and passages of velocity is slow practice, and the beauty can be obtained in no other way. "Play slowly if you ever hope to play fast." It is an easy task for a teacher to start out with beginners on the slow movement, but decidedly difficult to make fast players over into slow players. Pupils find it tiresome to play every note slowly and surely after having played them so fast as the fingers could work. It is not safe to allow a pupil to play otherwise than slowly during the first three grades, except a few pieces that are especially well learned, and after this only by degrees.

Scale and exercises are the most important for beginners, and they should be taught without notes, to allow the pupil to watch the position of the hand and movements of fingers. If any finger is found weak, it must be trained the week of the stronger ones, so as to acquire an even touch. In four months a pupil of ordinary ability should play and understand fully all the major and perhaps also the minor scales, and yet not one out of ten accomplishes this much. whose fault is it? The teacher's without doubt.

To know how to teach scales and to exercise the greatest strictness are two excellent rules. One word in regard to teaching: A thorough knowledge of the teaching art is requisite, and certain fundamental rules must be upheld. No person is any more fitted to teach music on the foundation of having learned the notes and "a few pieces," than one having mastered A B C and read a few books is fitted to teach school. With few exceptions all pupils comprehend their lessons with local manufacturer teachers, with whom they study until a "final finish" is necessary, then, going to a high school or conservatory of music, are greatly surprised to find they must begin at the foundation again in order to be "finished off."

**THE FASHIONABLE BUCKLE.**  
The delicate shirt waistline in a measure responsible for the buckle craze, which just now effects the madons of Gotham. The shafts require a buckle, and the belts require a buckle. The silver buckles are the most popular. They are long and narrow or round and much ornamented. Some are of filigree, while others are plain or oxidized. Buckles of black enamel inlaid with silver or gold are effective upon a delicately tinted ribbon belt. The gold buckles are beautiful enough to warrant the price at which they are sold. One represents a gold hoop around which a snake has twined its body. The eyes are glistening emeralds.

Plain gold buckles have the owner's monogram engraved upon them. Among the newest silver buckles are those inlaid with pale blue enamel. Delicate buckles of tortoise shell are also seen this year inlaid with gold or enamel.

The buckles which adorn the tennis belt are some handsome to show a racket. A new buckle to be worn with a yachting gown is of Roman gold shaped like an anchor, with bronze cords coiled about it. A dainty buckle attached to a white ribbon belt was formed of a wreath of blue enamel forget-me-nots.

**Pin Money and Divorces.**  
A correspondent of the Kansas City Star writes: "Instead of changing the divorce laws, or having the state decide on the qualifications of candidates for matrimony, have a law enacted by which the husband must settle enough money on the woman at his marriage for her future pin money, the amount to be gauged by the position in which they will live. In case the husband has only his salary acer his pin money should be given in lump sum to the wife, for if she gives herself to the man, and all her time to the home, she is not entitled to earning more than plenty to eat and a place to sleep. Give women their independence, thereby allowing them to retain the self respect, and I grant you there are few left who will make affectionate and faithful wives."

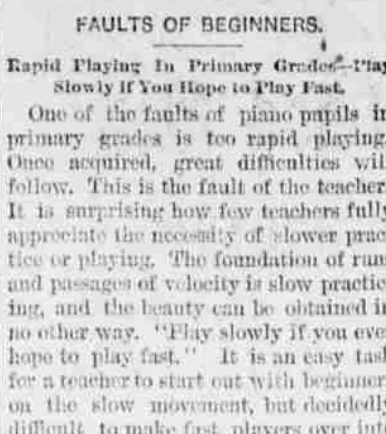
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This remedy is becoming so well known and so popular as to need no special mention. All who have used Electric Bitters sing the same song of praise. A pure medicine does not exist and it is manufactured to do all that is claimed. Electric Bitters will cure all diseases of the liver and kidneys, will remove pimples, boils, salt rheum and other affections caused by impure blood. Will drive malaria from the system and prevent as well as cure all malarial fevers. For cure of headache, Constipation and indigestion try Electric Bitters. Entire satisfaction guaranteed, or money refunded.—Price 50 cents and \$1 per bottle at Matthews Bros., Drug Store

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Of the blood, nothing sweeps as clean as Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It attacks all scrofulous, skin and scalp diseases, and every kind of impurity of the blood. Scrofula in all its various forms, Eczema, Tetter, Salt rheum, Erysipelas, Boils, Carbuncles, Ecthyma, Tumors and Swellings, and every kind of ailment, are perfectly and permanently cured by it.

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**MR. P. P. POSTLE.**  
Alexander, Geneva Co., N. Y.

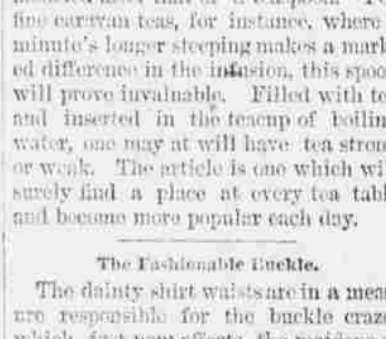


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