

AN EXPERT'S OPINION OF OUR NAVY.

FRENCH NAVAL ATTACHE.

says When Our New Ships Are Completed The United States Will Be the Second Great Naval Power.

Lieutenant de Faramond, of the French navy, recently arrived at Washington in company with the French Ambassador, M. Cambon, to become naval attache of the French embassy.

Lieutenant de Faramond has had wide experience as a naval observer, following the Japanese and Chinese vessels through the China-Japan war, and is now here to study American naval methods.

"The American navy has attracted wide attention within the last year, and this is leading European countries to send naval attaches to Washington. This will be the first time that the French government has had a naval attache with the embassy."

"Since the Spanish-American war this country affords splendid facilities for naval study. It was the first real test of modern fighting vessels, and the navy is now in its conclusions largely from what the American navy accomplished during the war with Spain."

"I think it is universally conceded in Europe that the American navy made a splendid record, not only in a general way, but in the technical matters of naval detail. It demonstrated the effectiveness of the rapid fire gun of medium caliber, rather than the larger guns. It also seemed to show that the power of the navy is more in its weapons of attack and offense, its capability of giving blows, rather than in its heavy armor and capability of resisting blows."

"We also know your American armor and are using the Harveyized American product, which has been found entirely satisfactory thus far."

Lieutenant de Faramond says foreign naval observers are not only interested in the results of the war, but are also observing the large amount of progress in the United States and the naval improvement it involves. From Italian naval statistics he shows that the United States is today reckoned second among the great Powers in point of warships under construction. This tonnage by countries is as follows:

Great Britain, 133,132 tons; United States, 56,425; Japan, 47,520; Russia, 24,940; France, 25,668; Germany, 16,545; Italy, 2,972.

"An interesting line of inquiry," said Lieutenant de Faramond, "is as to why you are building so many heavy ships—ironclads, as we call them—as against the lighter, swifter cruisers. The ironclad is essentially a home ship and is not fitted, owing to her bulk and lack of coal capacity, for crossing the ocean or for long cruises. The French navy has in commission 15 ironclads on the Mediterranean and 8 in the Northern squadron; but these are purely defense vessels and never leave the home ports."

"The performance of your battleship Oregon, in running 13,000 miles around South America, was remarkable for that reason, and the present trip across the Pacific is equally remarkable; but judged by the usual naval standards, an armored cruiser would have been much better equipped for these long voyages. She has the speed, the coal, and at the same time sufficient armor to make her defensive powers almost equal to those of the ironclad."

AN ODD ARRANGEMENT.

Woman's Dead Husband Always Greeted Her on Entering the Room.

A petition filed at Cordele, Ga., for a receiver for the First National Bank ends a peculiar story. The bank was established by Dr. George W. Marvin. A few months after organizing it he married a Mrs. Cunningham, a widow, who brought to him a large amount of property, which was added to the capital of the bank.

In 1892 Marvin died and Mrs. Marvin married Joseph E. Bivens, who succeeded to Marvin's fortune. Mrs. Bivens died in 1896, leaving all of her property to Bivens.

The most unenviable feature of the story was Mrs. Bivens' treatment of her first husband's body. She had it perfectly embalmed by an expert and placed in a glass case in her parlor. The coffin was so arranged that whenever she entered the room an electric motor forced it up to an upright position. After her marriage with Bivens this ghastly spectacle was relegated to the graveyard.

A Horrible Death.

John Holland, residing near Dublin, Ga., was roasted to death a few days ago. While traveling through the woods he kindled a fire under a tree. In time the weakened tree fell, pinning the man to the earth. It was not until that he had made a fearful fight for life. All round the earth had been plowed up by the fingers of the desperate man, who had hung the turf upon his back and upon the tree with the help of extinguishing the fire.

When his body was dug out, it was badly charred and only recognizable by shreds of the clothing which the man had worn. Bones had been broken in some parts of the body by the force of the struggle.

Les and Brooke Do Not Agree.

It is now an open secret that the relations between General Fitzhugh Lee and General Brooke are not of the most amicable character. Several incidents have recently occurred indicating this. Among officers of the Seventh Army Corps, it is believed that little would be required to produce an open rupture.

A Long Sleep Ended.

A year ago Elida Wilbur, of San Francisco, quarreled with her lover and she attempted suicide. Until last Sunday she has been in a trance but now shows signs of returning consciousness. James Dunphy, the lover, is greatly rejoiced and has promised to make the girl his wife.

Sinking in Quick Sand.

Hattie Weirlein, aged 13, living at Newark, N. J., last Monday stepped into a hole in the earth. It was not until she had been rapidly sinking in quicksand. She had almost disappeared from view when her father, hearing her cries, came to the rescue, threw her a rope and pulled his daughter to safety.

The Cuban military assembly removed General Maximo Gomez from the command of the Cuban army, and named him of the Cuban Union. In accepting the \$3,000,000 from the United States to pay off the Cuban troops

TERSE TELEGRAMS.

A pipe-organ trust is being talked of. Manufacturers of art glass and metal are now talking trust.

Princess Kaiulani at one time heir apparent to the Hawaiian throne is dead.

The President may visit Cuba before he returns to Washington from his southern trip.

Sewer rats inflicted probably fatal injuries on the two children of Mrs. Woodward, of Boston.

Congressman Wm. L. Greene of Nebraska died suddenly last Saturday at Omaha from heart failure.

Seventeen hundred employees of the Schoen pressed steel plant of Allegheny, Pa., are striking for higher wages.

James N. Wolff, criminal lawyer of Boston, has been appointed judge ad interim of the department of Massachusetts G. A. R.

The Michigan house of representatives passed the Atkinson railway taxation bill, and one providing for a state printing plant.

A \$400,000,000 company is to be chartered in New Jersey to utilize the power of the tides through an invention of William Reed.

The Kaiser Wilhelm der Gross arrived in New York Wednesday, having crossed the Atlantic in 5 days, 21 hours and 8 minutes.

The rumored great anthracite coal trust is also said to be seeking control of the bituminous fields of Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Two hundred and seventy-one persons died of typhoid fever in Philadelphia since Jan. 1, 1899. Impure city water is the cause.

Mrs. M. Davis, a leading witness in a sensational murder case to be tried at this term of court at Ft. Worth, was found murdered.

Dr. William A. Kahle of Franklin, Pa., was accidentally killed in Cuba a few days ago. He was a surgeon in the volunteer army.

The police of Chicago found portions of a human body in the barn of August Becker, the butcher, who is accused of having murdered his wife.

Mrs. Cordelia Porter and Samuel Parlow were hanged at St. Scholastique, Que., last Saturday. They were accused of murdering Mr. Porlier.

Herbert Stewart, of New York, has made a request to Yale of \$50,000 to establish the Herbert Stewart scientific fund, to assist deserving young men.

Seventy-one strikers were arrested at Allegheny, Pa., last Saturday for disorderly conduct. They were employees of the Schoen Pressed Steel company.

Thomas P. Donaldson, the champion diver, who fractured his skull in a dive into a tank at Madison Square Garden last week, died at the New York hospital.

Ladies of confederate organizations of South Carolina have raised money for a monument to the confederate dead in Stonewall cemetery, Winchester, Va.

The citizens of Port Wrangel, Alaska, are said by late arrivals from the North to be drawing up a petition asking the joint high commission to cede their town to Canada.

The New York police arrested three Americans and the same number of Italians, charging them with counterfeiting silver dollars. Many bad coins and molds were captured.

A train with 42 passengers on the Cheyenne & Wyoming railroad has been snowed in 16 days in Wyoming and 160 negro soldiers will make an attempt to carry food to it.

John Williams, aged 28 years, and his wife, Margaret, aged 25, were asphyxiated by illuminating gas at Philadelphia, Sunday. It is believed to have been due to an accident.

Abner McKinley, the president's brother, is visiting in Cuba. He says it is a pleasure trip. Knowing ones say he is there to study the attitude of the Cubans toward the administration.

The court of inquiry into the beef charges at Chicago elicited testimony that the beef at Camp Thomas, Chickamauga, was often hauled in wagons which were filthy beyond description.

A floating log struck a boat in which Ada Crittenden and Nina Jones, her pupil, were attempting to cross the Chattahoochee river near Atlanta, Tuesday night. Both were drowned.

A blinding snowstorm caused a collision on the Bangor railroad, two miles west of Lincoln, Neb., last Sunday. Luke Boyse, engineer, John Dwyer, engineer and Elmer Graham, fireman, were killed.

Dr. J. Diaz Prieto, a Mexican, has received from his government a tract of land in the state of Sonora. The grant was made in appreciation of the doctor's efforts in bringing foreign capital to Mexico.

T. DeWitt Talmage has resigned as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Washington, D. C. It is said that large audiences were attracted by his sermons but no permanent welfare resulted to the church.

It was said in Chicago that the makers of bar iron in seven States have combined to form one great corporation. Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri and Alabama are said to be included.

William A. Doucette, 22 years old, was arrested Sunday in St. Cecilia Church, Boston, on a charge of embezzling \$4,000 from the collection box of the church. Marked bills were found on his person after his arrest.

The London Times says Britain's naval estimates will be increased \$3,000,000 for the next year, reaching about \$28,000,000. Most of it will be for shipbuilding, repairs and the like, though 4,000 to 5,000 men are provided for.

Armed with a revolver, stiletto and razor, George de Josia, wanted in Tyrone, Pa., was arrested at Chicago. The prisoner fought desperately, but the police knocked him senseless. De Josia is charged with stealing \$6,500 worth of dry goods.

Jacob Erb, attorney; Frank Schoenfeld, attorney; Frank Repetto, private detective, and William Feeney, of Chicago, were arrested charged with an attempt to extort \$200,000 from Frank H. Cooper, of Siegel, Cooper & Co., by a blackmailing scheme.

In a joint session Wednesday of the Nebraska Legislature, Monroe L. Hayward was elected United States senator to succeed William V. Allen. He received 74 votes; the solid Republican membership, with the exception of one absent on account of sickness. Allen received 58, the full fusion strength.

Tacoma, Wash., citizens, indignant at robberies and holdups, decided to form a vigilance committee.

The following statement has been issued, showing the total number of deaths reported to the adjutant-general's office, between May 1, 1898, and February 28, 1899:

Killed in action, 329; died of wounds, 125; died of disease, 5,577; total, 6,031.

Herbert W. Smith, recently cashier for Edlton J. Gillies & Co., coffee importers of New York, is missing, and so are \$30,000 of the funds which he handled.

TORPEDO GUIDED BY RAYS OF LIGHT.

Destroyer Can be Sent Seaward as far as the Eye Can Reach by Means of Concentrated Waves of Light.

Dispatches received from Europe reveal the work of a Swedish inventor which will give the owner of his mechanical complete power of the sea in time of war. The old method of guiding and discharging torpedoes will be waves and guided by the human eye, will unobserved, glide through the waters and destroy the enemy's ships.

Axel Orling, a young Swedish electrical engineer who studied for some time in America, has invented a torpedo which may revolutionize the method of shore or ship without any material connection between it and its controller. Orling lately gave a demonstration of the power of his invention before King Oscar, the Ministers of Marine and War and other notables. The apparatus is now at the London docks, where an official said:

"You surely don't tell me, Mr. Orling, that, standing on seashore or on the deck of a ship, you can direct the course of the torpedo toward its objective point without an electric wire of other means of material communication between you and it?"

"Not only that," said the inventor, "but if the torpedo is not used for destructive purposes I can in the same manner bring it to my feet like a boomerang. The general principle of my invention, briefly, is a new means of transmitting a motor power by means of rays of light. I am not exactly prepared to give them a name, but the light which I transmit from a controlling or steering apparatus on shore (or ship) to the torpedo attachment is transmitted there into an electric induction. The difference between Marconi's invention and mine is that I concentrate my waves of light so that he cannot do this with his waves of sound."

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UNTILLED CUBAN FIELDS.

Many Destitute Still Entitled to American Charity—Refined Women Unable to Support Themselves—Gov. Ludlow's Appeal.

The condition of the women and children in Cuba still merits the sympathy and charitable consideration of the people of the United States. The action of the Cuban soldiers has caused the American people to view with indifference the future of the island, but the mute appeal of the starving women and children is again brought to our attention.

Brig. Gen. William Ludlow, governor of Havana, has written a lengthy letter, describing minutely the conditions in the Cuban capital and appealing for assistance for Cuban charities. Gen. Ludlow refers to the local administration of Havana as a "serious and laborious task." Touching especially upon the matter of keeping Havana clean, Gen. Ludlow writes that cleaning and sanitation are carried on "under every difficulty of a century-old accumulation of evils, a deficiency of material, inadequate personnel and a uncertainty as to funds, which for the present are derived from weekly and monthly requisitions on the variable custom-house collections, and the sale of the property of the State."

The destitute, he says, are found in greater numbers in Havana than any other province.

"In this department," writes the governor, which includes the city of Havana and its suburban region west, south and east, between the rivers Almudares and Colimar, the destitute drawing rations approximate 20,000, who must for the present be fed or permitted to starve.

"It is one of the distressing features that a general proportion of the destitute are women and children, whose men have died or been killed in the waste of war, while 20,000 or 30,000 more are still aggregated as an army, practically idle and dependent upon the country for their maintenance, instead of being at work earning their living and supporting their families. It is almost impossible in the average case of the women, to find anything to do, and they have been left behind when the Spanish forces abandoned the island, absolutely without the means of obtaining food. There are at present in the home a total of over 200, of all ages—70 women, 90 children and 40 men, who are almost entirely destitute and are deplorably reduced, and have much sickness among them. Many of them are well born, accomplished and educated, totally unable to do anything for themselves. They could teach, perhaps, but the schools are not open to them. They are alien to the community in which they are compelled to live."

To meet the needs of these women, Gen. Ludlow suggests that an association be formed, in the states might make them a charge.

The governor concludes by saying that Mrs. Ludlow, who has taken a strong interest in the matter, would be very glad to receive any contributions of food, clothing or money as might be forwarded.

KILLED RINGING UP FARES.

Conductor Struck by Lightning in a Crowded Street Car.

Monday evening, during a thunder shower at Bridgeport, Conn., Conductor George Steadman, in the employ of the traction company, dropped dead in the center of his car as he reached for the cord to ring up a fare. The car was filled with passengers who were greatly frightened. The conductor, who had been killed by lightning and no one else in the car felt the shock is strange. It is thought that he, in some way, completed a circuit in ringing up the fares, just at the moment that the flash of lightning came and received the full force of