THE EYE OF THE BATTLESHIP.

How the Searchlight Transforms the Area of Darkness, Beloved of the Torpedo Boat, Into a Field of Dazzling Brightness In Which the Skulking Foe Becomes an Easy Mark For Our Accurate Gunners.

(Chicago Times.)

The dreaded, deadly eyes in the dark of the battleship, torpedo boat or in fact any other vessel, are the searchlights. The black and leering battleship, an invincible conqueror of wind by day, is no longer a helpless prey of wind or night.

The once dreaded foe in the dark is divested of honors. The dark has now proved to be a dark of light.

Like the thief, the lurking foe loves the light, and the light can, it seems, most of all to the searchlight, which has been aptly designated "the eye of the battleship."

Searchlights have become such a matter of necessity that it was not long before our artillerists began to produce results and the opposite. The latter have now probably surpassed the former in the universal curiosity of different kinds, the reflection and refraction of the rays almost giving the rays of light to be employed in a serious way.

It is mentioned doubtful to have a gun "sighted" which will illuminate a large area of a suspicious object under fire. For this purpose engineers have used with marked success of it before or more in summer and of hitherto form for the purpose, as would be supposed but are constructed in a special manner so that the rays of light to be employed in a serious way.

The searchlight is now