O THE WORLD'S GREATEST BATTLESHIP.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

Is the Kearsarge the most powerful ! in our navy and, on equal disnents, does she surpass in fightqualities any battle ship of the

or great sea powers? culiar distribution of her baty and the uniqueness of the class sign have excited wide difference of on within and without the navy. since her trials during the last week elaim has been made most insistly by her advocates,

utting aside for the moment all conons rave those affecting gun let her be compared with the ships that defeated the Spanmusdren in the action off Santiago nade a quick ending to the war. teen minutes the broadsides of

arge can hurl against the ojectiles weighing \$5,000 an equal time the lowa can double that of the y of the Kearsarge is

that of the lowa is made 12-inch and eight 8-inch six rapid fire pieces. Hence ge carries an equal number st guns, a less number of liate caliber and many rapid fire type. The ap-vantage of the loss in 8-said to be out-weighed by action secured through of so many of iring class. Such a large of course demand a very ammunition and a reion of weight gained by ent of the four 8-inch two turrets enabled the increase the magazine munition and have somemagazine

equally marked variamethods adopted to varry the lowa the 12-inch guns in pairs within single on the fore and aft line he pair of mounted 8-inch by turrets disposed at the amidships within the rating the main turrets. The as supposed to give a very "end on" fire of six heavy was discovered, however, that the crews in the lower bnally decided that the ot be trained with safety ship, and hence the

and the Kearsargs were under discussion these defects were pointed out, and remedies were suggested. Certain experts, indeed, went further and asserted that such an arrangement of the 8-inch guns, both at home and abroad, was not only dangerous but wasteful of important weight—and it may be well to remember here that the proper distribution of weight is the practical question controlling war ship design. It was declared, moreover, that four turrets, each mounting two suns, had to be employed in order to get one-half of the total firing capability, and as this incapacity to deliver the whole firing energy at a common enemy seemed impossible of correction it was suggested that two of the 8-inch turrets be dispensed with, and that the remaining two be placed on the midship line, so as to cover a possible firing zone on each

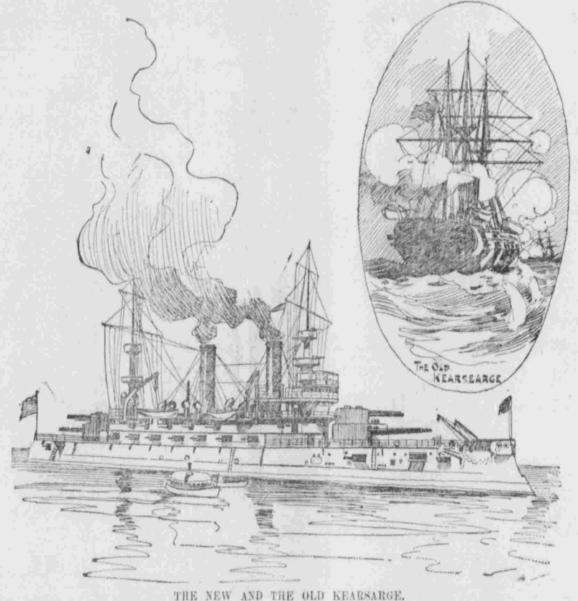
Before this proposition was accepted several other objections were arrayed, the principal being that in bow and stern fire the blasts would be carried over the 13-inch turrets. Investigation showed this to be true, and that the lower turrets would be untenable by the ower turrets would be untenable by the crew, and the somewhat delicate fittings belonging to the sighting and operating mechanisms of the principal guns would be disarranged or destroyed. Then, too, it was insisted that the location of the turrets and their magazines and operating machinery in the same vertical plane would require a lengthening of the ships so as to give the necessary sware for boilers and

a lengthening of the ships so as to give the necessary space for boilers and for engines.

But, as usual, a way out soon appeared. Under our system of naval administration the bureau of ordnance decides the size, character and arrangement of ships' batteries, and at this time Capiain Sampson (now admiral), was chief of the bureau, and Ensign Joseph Strauss (how lieutenant), was the assistant in charge of ant), was the assistant in charge of the designs of heavy gun carriages and turrets. The vexed question was naturally a subject of consultation between these two experts, and finally, after very earnest study. Ensign Strauss found what seemed to be a solution of the difficulty. He proposed that four of the 8-inch guns should be abandoned, and that the other four world be and that the other four should be mounted in two turrets, one of which was to be superimposed upon each of the 13-inch structures. This original the 13-inch structures. This original and striking proposition was readily accepted by Captain Sampson, was approved by the department, and is today the very design realized in Iron and steel on board the battle ships Kearsarge and Kentucky. To the young Ensign Strauss, and to him alone, belongs, therefore, the credit and honer of an invention that has startled the naval world, and may cause a revolunaval world, and may cause a revolu-tion in war ship construction. An examination of the accompanying

ter of the design. It will be noticed that the muzzle of the 8-inch guns extend beyond the firing hoods in the lower turrets: that they have a free angle of fire of about 270 degrees around the supply tubes are protected by the walls The United States Has it in the Magnificent Kearsarge, the Invention of Lieutenant Strauss, U. S. N.-May Bring About a Revolution in the Warship Designing of

of the lower turrets and barbettes and by the armored extensions of the water line. The diminution in weight, the increased area for gun fire and the su-



The Kearsarge is 368 feet long, 72 feet 2 inches beam and will carry 520 men. She has all her armament excepting her fourteen 5 inch rapid fire guis. A novelty about her is in her two story turrets, one forward, one aft. Each double turret assumptions that it might be necessary to engage two enemies at once on the same fighting side, one lightly armored and the other provided with a steel protection, against which only the 13-inch guns could be effective. Furthermore, it was a grave error, declared these opponents of the change, to put four guns in one structure when two of them were of simaler caliber, with different tring speeds ranges and energies, esfiring speeds, ranges and energies, es-pecially when all were dependent upon the safety and condition of one turning

These protests are still unsilenced and however close an agreement may be reached upon the structural question ifter more extended trials, It is certain that the military one must continue in dispute until the clash and stress of battle finally settles it. It is apt, until such test offers, to run merrily along in the same old grooves of positive assertien and flat contradiction that lure naval arguments into the certainties of no man's land and leave them there befogged. For naval experts are a stiff-necked tribe. Whenever the first military objection is advanced the military objection is advanced the ready answer comes that the turrets can make one complete revolution in a minute, and that after delivering the fire from the heaviest guns at one antagonist only a few seconds will be required to train the other guns against the lighter armored enemy. And again, the champions of the design are sure to declare that even in the remote case where the rotating naver of the lower where the rotating power of the lower turret might be interferred with and the upper one must share this fate, the vessel would only drop from the class of a battle ship to that of an armored cruiser. What is more, even then she would have some fighting energy left in her heaviest guns through the man-

oeuvering powers of the ship itself. Some definite news has come, how-ever, and it is most satisfactory to all who believe in the American capacity for tackling and subduing difficulties. In order to test the hull, structures and guns the shiphasbeen subjected to several offshore trials. As before in her speed trials, she proved to be a good sa-boat, and nobody even mentioned that she was top heavy. The gun tests were carried on progressively and according to a program intended to reveal the virtues and vices both of ship and arma-ment. The Kearsarge came out of them most successfully, and her struc-tural fitness was demonstrated beyond cavil. The battery was fired with safe-ty and precision; there was no inter-ference between the fire of one gun and of the other, and the crews suffered no inconvenience from the shock of discharge, or from blasts and powder fumes. Rear Admiral Sampson and the experiments, which were conducted | vy.

based upon both the structural and military features of the design. It was declared that structurally the ship would be top heavy, that the ammunition supply could not be arranged, that the blast and powder of the upper guns would interfere with the working of the lower, and that injuries to one turret would disable both. The principal military objections were founded upon assumptions that it might be necessary to engage two enemies at once on the same fighting side, one lightly armored and the other provided with a steel protection, against which only the 13-inch marks new advance in war engines."
And Captain Folger reported officially:

And Captain Polker reported officially:

"The double turret is an assured success, both front military and structural standpoints."

In summing up the results, an officer who attended the trial furnished this paper with the resume of the advantages, and it may be worth repeating:

"First—Two complete s-inch turrets, their handling rooms, shell rooms, magazines, operating machiness, step, have azines, operating machiners, etc., have been dispensed with, with little or no loss of effective fire, the saving of weight including the far better armor,

being 460 tons.
"Second—The ammanition supply and loading tube of the 3-lach turrets, instead of being unprotected, is now protected with fiften inches of Harvey armor, an incalculable advantage with-out the addition of an ounce of weight, but an actual saving of weight, such that the 8-inch turnets have Harvey ar-mor eleven inches thick in front and nine inches in rear, instead of eight in-

"Third-Simplicity, such that one man trains four suns, his sole duly being to keep the target on according to directions, while each gun has an independent gun pointer who looks out for elevation only, so that one gun or all may be fired at the will of the officer

commanding the turret.
"Pourth—Smaller target by over twenty per cent and the principal battery reduced to two practically impregnable units.
"Fifth-The increased weight of fire

of the Kearsarge tells the story, for while in fifteen minutes a weight of over eighty-five thousand nounds of metal can be delivered, the India or the Iowa delivers only about forty-eight thousand pounds.

"The fourteen 5-inch rapid fire guns of the main battery and the twenty 6-pounders guns of the secondary batchine guns in the tops, would quickly smother the fire of a less fortunate

It only remains to add that the principal dimensions of the Kearsarge are cipal dimensions of the Kearsarge are as follows: Length, 26s feet; beam, 72 feet 2½ inches mean draught 23 feet 6 inches; displacement, 11,525 tons; gross tonnage, 6,831.81. She carries as a maximum 1,645 tons of coal, and her trial speed was 16.816 knots. Her side armor varies from 16% to 9% inches, with 13% inches on the water line, and her turrets have a maximum of 17 in ches Harveyized steel.-J. D. Jerrold

RUSSIA DOESN'T FEAR ENGLAND

designation was and anathermanion and anathermanion

cause Russia has massed ps al Kushan, and taken a foot-in Persia! We are at home. Eng-has nothing to say about what are doing within the limits of our

a vassal state of Great Britwhomsoever it seems her, and to contract loans with cover she pleases. Nothing in erns the English

to us as possible, and that gressor as odlous, would be what is already known, Our ers and for the crushing glish—as do all other peoples, matter, for upon this point

that everyone here is is, can we passively as-implete crushing of the ion of South Africa? And essary to answer it. For inity, It is impossible the war which the Engs against the Boers against humanity, In at our emperor will des say, or even know, at the will direct something. ing in South Africa, I ne in deciding, it is be-ion will be of great pe and the world. comperor decides, Rus-

out-and without feat fleet, even admitting the English proclaim ble, than which nothn because nothing is England is, militarily

the Pamire, crashes down upon India, get up and take a chair while I an-

Why should England protest or make | with dreadful force, Britannic domination in the vast empire of the far east will be at an end.

will be at an end.

And how will England, who has had so much trouble to put down the different insurrections of ill-armed, ill-equipped, badly led, starving Hindeos, invasion of two or three hundred thous-and men, which will be an army of the best, and which can be increased, if need be, to a million soldiers?

This task, in fact, would be beyond her strength. And nothing would be left for her soon but to evacuate the country which she conquered once by ruse rather than by valor and has since ruse rather than by valor and has since kept by violence and despotism. England—I repeat what I have said before—is an intruder in the far east. She came there to gather for herself at

small cost the possessions of others which she has kept in spite of right by processes of fillbustering and pira-cy—the same which she is using in South Africa to hold against all a country she stole from its lawful own-

And she will inevitably be expelled from it some day. Is this day about to dawn? I do not know. England has sinned against God and against man. It may be the terrible punishment she has earned is in sight.—By Count Mar. ravieff, Russian Minister of Foreign

THE BOERS AND THE BLACKS Transvaal Law Probibiting Kaffirs from Singing on the Streets.

The Hoers owe their political existence to the nation against which they are now engaged in war, says Haroid Bolce in Frank Leslie's Monthly for

February,
At any moment during the past de-cade the black hordes of Zwasiland, Zululand, Basuloland, Bechuanland and A. England is, militarily, in full decadence, Possis slipped into the hands demagogues, at once culators and blatant char. Latily she is served by who have something betomanded by officers as a cre education, who have manded by officers as a cre education, who have in acquire, in wars which aunts than anything size, increasing to command a European sense, military decadence is undifferent and the interest of the Boers for by them they have been robbed, benten and enslaved, but toward the Eritish, who have organized the tribes and given them forms of self-government, the Kaffirs on the whole are friendly. In 1863 the great Basuto race sanght refuge from Boer aggression by voluntary submission to England.

one of the seers so the Great Trek was a determination on the part of the It is trouble wasted. She ha one any more. Everyone at it is upon land and not see, that the great battles will which—for her iniquities, for a lingual will, perhaps, to fight. And upon land Enghe bearen wherever she encombat with the powers of and were to have a war with he would be irrevocably lost, and shadow of doubt about. We shall not go to seek her a land, where anyway, she But we shall know enough where she is most vulnerable, within our reach. I believe the beaten herself with all the but that she will no less tumb. The day the Bussian, rolling from the hights of re, crashes down upon India, One of the secrets of the Great Trek

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An incident near Blosmfontoin. A party of scouts recently passed out into the broken country beyond the waterworks. They had dismounted and were engaged in a tour of observation when one of their number became suspicious that all was not well. A onick rush for the horses was made, and the snapping of the Mausers of the hidden enemy there told of the trap which had

swered the message. When I gave him | the intoning of the psalms in their sol- | and sometimes eat the bodies of their | grownson norman norma the note he slunk away trembling and much mystified Afterward I spoke to the Boer official about the episode. He protested that I had done very wrong "I always kick them as they go out," he explained; "then they know who is the surestor."

BRITISH SCOUTS SCENTING A BOER TRAP.

the superior."
Another law prohibits Kaffirs from whistling or singing in the streets; and as the spirit of the black man, however much he is oppressed, finds expression in mclody, this statute is constantly violated; and for their musical indisetion Kaffirs are dragged in great umbers to jail and besten merclessly n routs. The Boers explain that this

emn services.
The drastic subjugation of the blacks has produced a deep determination among the tribes to be avenged if op-

ighs 700 tons. In each lower turnet are two 13 inch gons and in each upper turnet two 8 inch guns. Another novelty is

ZAPPO-ZAPS BREAK OUT.

American missionaries have made the serious charge against the government of the Congo Free State that there is reign of terror on the upper Congo Villages are being destroyed by the desen, natives killed by the thousand and wholesale robbery and murder are being done by the Zappo-Zaps,an armed body of native soldiers, who are work perating independence and judicially braved of the blacks, and to instruct them in the ways of true humility. Possibly the law is also due to the creed of the Doppers, the party long in control of the government, who respectively. ing, the missionaries assert, under the order of a Free State officer at Luiugard all music as a profanation, and as a token that they are not idle. These who have accordingly renounced even fierce natives are given to cannibalism.

gians. This state of affairs has been existing for some time, but has just been brought to the attention of the world by the missionaries.

The American missionaries having procured proof of the terrible condition of the people, on the upper Congo sent profests to the king of the Belgians, to secretary Chamberlain and to Ambassador Choate. Mr. Choate replied that it was not within his power to take any it was not within his power to take any action unless instructed to do so by th state department in Washington, and suggested that the matter be referred to Secretary Hay, which, it is stated, has been done. Mr. Chamberlain in his reply said that the matter was not in his department, and referred the mis-sionaries to the British foreign office, to which they then sent their statements. King Leopold's chief cabinet said that the government of the Congo Free State had been instructed to make an investigation into the matter, and that the legal authorities were already at work on it. So the United States, Great Britain and Belgium are pre-sumably now after the howling Zappo-Zaps and the Helgian officer who is

victims. Prisoners taken alive they hold as slaves and are reported to have

sent slaves to serve in Luluobourg They have also collected large quantitles of rubber, lvory, etc., from their victims, and are rapidly depopulating

the country round about them. Such a reign of terror has not been known in Africa since the Congo State was placed under the protection of the Belgians. This state of affairs has been

secused of sanctioning their proceed-An English missionary who was sent by his mission to investigate the "go-ings on" in the Luluobourg region has society in London an account of the horrible scenes which he witnessed. He saw six burned villages and over a dozen others pillaged and deserted. These he came across in his journey to the camp of the Zappo-Zape. How these he came across in his journey to the camp of the Zappo-Zape. How many others are pillaged or estroyed entirely in the region cannot be learned, but there must be many. He found a body of 500 Zappo-Zaps encamped near a big stockade. They had made this stockade and invited into it the chiefa whereing a company to the chiefa. sub-chiefs and prominent men of a meighboring village with their women. When all were inside the inclosure the gates were closed and the chief of the Zappo-Zaps demanded a heavy tribute of slaves, ivory and rubber. The people declared that they could not pay such a large tribute whereupen they were shot down like dogs, few of them escaping. The missionary counted between farty and fifty dead bodies inside the stockade. Blood was everywhere and the stench was horrible. Nearly all the bodies were mutilated, and been cut off and eaten by the Zappo-Zaps. He also saw eighty-one severed right hands, which had been cut off as a token that the work at the stockade had been well done. Sixteen captives had already been forwarded, and elaxy women who had been captured work had over the stockade was flying from the top of a high pole the flag of the Congo Free State. The officer will bave hard work to clear himself of the charges made against him of aiding and abetting the Zappo-Zaps.

It is clearly the duty of Belgium to

INDIA'S LITTLE WARS.

Some of Them in the Last Half Century Have Required 70,000 British Soldiers.

province receives mercens receives mercens receives

Since 1849 the government of India | off the cattle, robbing right and left, has been almost continually at war. The price of empire in lives and money is great. A return of the various milltary operations in which the governcording to the size of the trouble on hand. The first recorded fight in 1849 was brought about by the refusal of some border villages to pay taxes. Two thousand three hundred troops were sent to the disturbed region and the refractory villages and their abettors punished.

The next year a party of sappers making a road in the Kohat Pass were set upon by the Afridis and almost exterminated. Thirty-two hundred men were sent to avenge the death of the road makers. They traversed the Afrida country and the murderers were pun-ished. In 1851 the border country was in a much disturbed state, owing to the entry of Afghan troops into Miranza. villages and constant raids and rob-berles by Mohmands in British terriory. A column of troops traversed the Maranzai region restored order and took hostages for the good behavior of

betting the Zappo-Zam

It is clearly the duty of Belgium to trouble in the amb country, caused by interfere in the matter. The Congo Pree State was placed under the individual sovereignty of the king of the Belgians by a convention of the powers beld in Berlin in 1890. The king gave up his individual rights and the territory of British India by various border tribes. Altogether the government of India had under arms for the up his individual rights and the territory of the State was declared instinct.

killing where they could, and even at-tacking a British camp. Another border tribe—the Miranzal—refused to pay tribute and stirred up the country beyond her borders has been made at the request of John Morley. It is a surprising list of wars, nearly all of been restored the British village of Shahu Khel. It took something like 10,000 troops to get the border in shape again, and surprising list of wars, nearly all of been restored the Turis broke out them practically unknown or forgot-ten. The troops employed range from a few hundred up to over 70,000, ac-cording to the size of the trouble on on the Buner border broke into revolt, and the Bozdars raided the northern country. It tack about 25,000 troops to set things straight this year. And so set things simight this year. And so every year the little wars continued until 1861, which was the first year since 1849 when India had been completely at peace. In 1862 trouble began again with the tribesmen and lasted until 1865, when there came another year of peace, followed by four years of fighting, and then a breathing spell in 1870.

In 1871 began the fighting again, which has continued to ints time. Nearly all of the trouble has been in the border country, but some of it has been much further away for India has sent troops to Africa and Burmah. In Egypt, Indian troops garrisoned Sua-kim and rought Osman Digna in the operations around that city. In some of the little wars only a few hundred men were employed, but in such troubles as those in Afghanistan, when the British resident and his staff were killed, an army of 11,720 men was Ameer deposed and his son installed as railer. Even the little outbreak in Chitral, in 1891, took over 18,000 men to put down, and the rebellion of the Afridia and the destruction of the Khyber posts was an affair which called for the services of over 40,000 men before quiet flying columns disarm the tribeamen in many cases, burn their villages and

THE TREES OF PARIS.

The trees in the streets and public places of Paris are estimated, by M. Mangin, to number about 80,000. Of these, 26,000 are plane trees, 17,000 chestnuts, and 15,000 elms, the remainder being sycamores, maples, lindens, etc., with apparently only one oak and one Id in Berlin in 1890. The king gave is in in 1890. The king gave is in individual rights and the territy of the State was declared instinctively of the State was declared instinctively. The moriality among these this individual rights and the territy of the State was declared instinctively. The moriality among these this individual rights and the territy of the State was declared instinctively of the clay the trees suffer from the control of the clay the trees suffer from the control of the clay of the clay the trees suffer from the control of the clay of the clay the trees suffer from the control of the clay o which Belgium was allowed to annex the Free State after ten years. The ten years will be up next Fourth of July, when the State will become a colony of Heigium.

The population of the State is estimated at 30,000,000.

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