

## NEW FORTS FOR CANADA.

The Imperial Defense Commission Decides to Erect a Chain of Them.

Acting on the recommendation of the imperial defense commission now at Quebec, the imperial authorities of Canada have decided to erect a chain of strong detached forts at strategic points along the frontier between the cities of Montreal and Quebec. The work will begin immediately. The two cities named will also be strongly fortified. The fortifications now existing will be strengthened. All obsolete guns will be replaced by weapons of long range and power. Col. Dalton and the other commissioners are now deciding upon the locations for forts between the two cities.

The military authorities of Toronto were notified that the imperial authorities had decided to place a gun-boat on Lake Ontario to be used as a training ship for a naval volunteer reserve, to be organized on the basis of that of Great Britain.

The vessel is to be officered by experienced instructors from the British navy and will have its headquarters at Toronto.

It is intimated that the matter is experimental in nature, and if successful boats will be placed on the other lakes.

No funds will be taken from patriotic societies for the support of the reserve, although these organizations have several times asked to be allowed to bear the preliminary expense of such an experiment. All expense will be borne by the British and Canadian governments.

## HOLDING OF PHILIPPINES.

Will More Than Double the Pacific Coast Trade with the Orient Within Five Years.

D. E. Brown, general agent of the Canadian Pacific Railway and Steamship company, speaking of the growth of trade between this country and the orient, said:

"The trade of the last five years should more than double in the next five years, owing, in the first place, to the increased transportation facilities, and, in the second place, to the close relations that will have to exist hereafter between this country and the orient, as the result of holding the Philippine Islands. We are perfectly willing that the United States should hold on to the Philippine Islands, and when once the matter is definitely settled and business again in full swing it will not be long before the commerce of the Pacific will be as great as that of the Atlantic, and especially will this be the case when railroads shall open up China to the commercial and industrial world and make this northwest coast its landing place."

## AUTOGRAPHS FOR MISS GOULD.

Soldiers and Sailors Are Asked to Remember Their Benefactor.

Soldiers who have benefited or whose comrades have benefited through the kindness of Miss Helen Gould have started a movement to give her an original kind of album as a token of appreciation. This circular is to be sent to as many soldiers as can be reached:

There is a wish among the men of the army and volunteers of the army and navy of the war of 1868 to show their gratitude to Miss Helen Gould for what she has done and is doing for us all. All those who wear the blue, afloat and ashore, who love the thought that Miss Helen Gould would do the same for them, in their hour of need, may send their names, company and regiment or ship, on a slip of paper one inch by four inches, so it can be placed in an album with a set of resolutions to be presented to Miss Helen Gould.

All those who have not addressed a letter to Miss Helen Gould Testimonial, J. F. Fairman, secretary, 1 Moore street, New York city.

No contributions are asked for in this circular.

## DEWEY'S ONLY VICTOR.

Man Who Once Gave the Admiral a Whipping Is Named for Congress.

The only man who ever whipped Admiral George Dewey was nominated for congress by the republicans of the Hudson county (N. J.) district. The nomination was unanimously given to Maj. Sebina K. Pangborn, of Jersey City.

Maj. Pangborn has a national reputation as an editor and orator. He whipped Dewey while the latter was his pupil in a backwoods school near Montpelier, Vt., half a century ago.

Dewey and Pangborn have been warm friends ever since. Dewey recently said to the major:

"I shall never cease to be grateful to you. You made a man of me. But for the thrashing you gave me I should probably be a state prisoner."

## Electric Railways in Europe.

Out of 204 different lines of electric railway in Europe 172 lines are operated by the overhead trolley, eight have the underground trolley, eight the third rail system, 13 storage or accumulator cars, and three lines a mixed system of overhead trolley and accumulators at certain points in the line. The break is caused by the restrictions against trolleys in a few European cities.

Railway in China. The Chinese railway from Shanghai to Wu-Sung is nearly completed. About 20 years ago the government bought this road, engaged several thousand coolies to tear up the rails and sleepers, put them on a ship and dumped them in a desolate spot on the coast of Formosa.

## Repairs on Submarine Cables.

It takes 37 specially constructed and equipped steamers to keep the submarine cables of the world in repair, one for the eyebrows.

## OUR GROWING NAVY.

Fifty-Five War Vessels Now Under Course of Construction.

When Completed They Will Place the United States as the Third Naval Power of the World.

The remarkable rapidity with which the naval power of the United States is being increased at the present time may be realized when it is stated that 55 war vessels are now under contract for the government, and that their aggregate tonnage far exceeds that of the vessel building at any one time during the civil war. This vast construction programme, which has exacted more attention abroad than at home, has been authorized gradually by congress, until the vessels soon to be completed will place the United States third in rank among the sea powers. In addition to the enormous fleet, including auxiliaries, actually in construction at the present time, 20 vessels are in various states of readiness and the shipbuilders are hurriedly gathering the material for 35 others. Of the 55 vessels, eight are first-class, heavily armored, sea-going battleships, 38 are torpedo boats, four are monitors, and one is a powerful cruiser.

Chief Constructor Hichborn has completed a tabulated statement showing the degree of completion of the 20 vessels now nearly ready for commission, or rapidly approaching that condition, from which it appears that 17 of these vessels have already been launched and that the others will be afloat before the end of this year.

The five battleships, the Kearsarge, the Kentucky and the Illinois, building at Newport News, Va., are respectively 68, 66 and 55 per cent completed. The Alabama, at the Cramp's yard, Philadelphia, has advanced to 63 per cent, and the Wisconsin, which is to be launched at the Union iron works, San Francisco, next month, is exactly half finished.

## WANTED TO BORROW NAVY.

Letter Found on a Crank in New York City Threatens the President.

The queer acting of a man in St. Mary's park, Morrisania, attracted the attention of a policeman. When spoken to the man made no reply, and he was taken to the East One Hundred and Thirteenth street police station, New York city. Among other things found when he was searched was the following letter:

William B. McKinley, United States President—Esteemed Sir: I had the honour four years ago to make a request of you for assistance in getting my wife released from the U.S. navy. The only thing I needed was the loan of the United States navy. As I did not receive any answer I write this, which will be the last. Unless you loan me the United States navy and I will be able to blow up your house, kill every man, woman and child in the United States.

The letter was unsigned. In his pockets were found a package of paper cut from newspapers in the shape of bank bills. Each one had marked on it a value ranging from \$1,000 to \$500. After some persuasion he said his name was Smith Barth.

## MRS. MCKINLEY'S KIND ACT.

Secures the Discharge of a Kentucky Boy Who Is Now in Puerto Rico.

For a graceful act Mrs. McKinley, wife of the president, has earned the lasting gratitude of Mrs. Robert H. Snyder, of Louisville, Ky. Mrs. Snyder's husband is fatally ill, and his only son, Robert H. Snyder, is with the First Kentucky volunteers in Puerto Rico. The father has prayed to see his son once more, and, desiring to gratify his wish, Mrs. Snyder wrote directly to Mrs. McKinley, stating the circumstances. Two days later Mrs. Snyder received the following telegram: "The acting secretary of war has ordered the immediate discharge of your son, Ward, Assistant Adjutant General." Mrs. Snyder is awaiting daily news of her son's homecoming.

## WILL BE A MODEL STATION.

Site Selected for the Barracks and Dock on Goat Island Near San Francisco.

The sites for the barracks and the dock for the proposed naval training station on Goat Island, near San Francisco, have been selected by Capt. Francis W. Dickins, of the bureau of navigation of the navy department. The buildings will be located on the low, flat ground, to the northeast of the island and the dock will be placed east of the lighthouse dock, where the water is deep enough to permit of the training ship being brought close to shore. The appropriation for the station is \$100,000, but an increase to twice that amount will be asked for, as it is desired to make this a model station.

## Destroying a Famous Prison.

With the demolition of Mayas prison, in Paris, the first prison in France constructed on the old cellular system has disappeared. There were 1,200 cells, radiating like the spokes of a wheel, and so arranged that each prisoner could see the chapel from the door and listen to divine service without leaving his cell.

## Muscles of the Head.

The head has 77 muscles—eight for the eyes and eyelids, one for the nose, eight for the lips, eight for the jaw, 11 for the tongue, 11 for the larynx, 11 for the ears, 17 for motions of the head and neck, one to move the hairy scalp, one for the eyebrows.

## United States Coins in Hawaii.

Nearly all the gold coin in circulation in the Sandwich Islands is of United States mintage.

## NEW PLANS.

Secretary Long in His Annual Report Will Recommend the Establishment of a Naval Reserve.

In his annual report Secretary Long will recommend the establishment of a national reserve. Capt. Crowninshield, chief of the navigation bureau, and Capt. Bartlett, chief of the auxiliary naval force, which was recently disbanded, have the matter under advisement. Capt. Crowninshield will draft a bill which he hopes will be passed by congress.

The bill will provide that the naval militia of the several states shall be responsible first to the state and then to the government. It will also provide that the reserves may be called into active service in time of war, either as an organization or as individuals. The plan contemplates placing one officer in personal charge of the reserves and the assignment to each state reserve of one or more officers as instructors.

Ships will be furnished by the government for drill purposes, which will be supplied with suitable guns and ammunition for target practice. The naval militiamen will be given sea service under this plan. It is proposed to send them to sea on men-of-war for several weeks each year. It has also been suggested that it would be advantageous to adopt the British plan of assigning officers of the grade of ensign and lieutenant to men-of-war to serve six months in every four years.

Certificates from the commanders-in-chief are given British officers for such service, which aids them both in a professional and business way upon returning to civil life.

There is no doubt in the minds of the department officials that the naval reserves rendered valuable services during the war, and out of the excellent record made by the Illinois reserves grew this plan for one of a national character.

## PLEAS FROM FEMININE FOR.

Col. Roosevelt Completely Routed by Four Pretty Young Ladies at a Reception.

Everyone around New York republi- can headquarters in the Fifth Avenue hotel is laughing over the manner in which ex-Col. Theodore Roosevelt fled in dismay from a party of admirers at the Union League club reception. Until now the facts have been jealously guarded.

The reception was at its height when a message was received asking the colonel to come to the telephone immediately. The message was a decoy sent by a man who was escorting four exceedingly pretty girls. Thinking probably that Senator Platt or Chairman Odell had something of importance to communicate, the republican candidate for governor hastened downstairs.

"This is the best chance you will ever get, girl," the man cried on seeing the colonel. "Go ahead."

With one impulse all the girls ran forward with the intention of Hobsonizing him, as and the soldier stood for an instant like one spell-bound.

When he realized their purpose he blushed furiously, stammered something, then turned and ran with the swiftness of a trained athlete. He did not recover himself for some time. Meanwhile the girls remained below, pouting for awhile, then slowly walked away.

## CERVERA'S DEFEAT.

Due to Plans Prepared by Sampson, So Says an Official Naval Board.

The official naval board which was appointed some time ago to inquire into the battle of Santiago in order to settle the disputed points which arose out of that event has completed its labors and forwarded an exhaustive report to Secretary Long.

The chief issues before the board related to the part taken in the battle by the two flagships New York and Brooklyn. Many other questions came up incidentally.

In summing up it appears that:

The battle was fought and won upon plans prepared by Sampson; any direction of the movements of the ships done by Schley during the battle was inconsiderable; the New York had no active part in the fight; the Brooklyn was not engaged at so close quarters as had been represented by the first report; the brunt of the fighting was done by the Canal and Pierce.

Deputy Comptroller of the Navy, Frank Murphy, said: "The report of the naval board is a complete victory for the president. It shows that the New York was not engaged in the battle, and that the Brooklyn was not engaged at so close quarters as had been represented by the first report."

On a certain lot of land situated in the Fifth Avenue, New York, there is a portion of the land which is owned by the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad, and a portion which is owned by the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad. The two lots are separated by a stone wall.

On the 1st of January, 1898, the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad sold the portion of land which it owned to the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad for \$10,000.

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