

THE FINEST AFLOAT.

Description of the Hospital Ship of the War Department.

Has Every Known Convenience, Appliances and Luxury for Care of Sick and Wounded—Two X Ray Outfits.

What undoubtedly is the finest hospital ship in the world steamed out of New York harbor the other day and is on her way to Santiago de Cuba. She is the Relief, the pride of the war department. The Solace, Uncle Sam's other hospital ship, belongs to the navy department, and is on duty in Cuban waters.

The Relief, with her splendid lines, her massive steel frame and her modern engines, more than answers every demand from the view point of a ship proper, and from that of the physician and surgeon she is a dream.

Imagine a ship of this kind divided up into five large wards for the sick and wounded, into storerooms and messrooms, operating-rooms and officers' quarters; fitted with every appliance known to modern medical and surgical science, including all known instruments likely to be required in surgical operations; two complete X-ray outfits, a microscopic laboratory, perfect facilities for photographing, and with electrical power everywhere, running the lights and hundreds of fans scattered throughout the ship, whose zephyrs will make the wounded soldier forget that he is not in his northern home, instead of off

torrid Cuba. The ship will be loaded with the greatest cargo of nice things that any similar vessel ever carried. Hundreds of patriotic women all over the eastern states have heard of Dr. Torney and his ship, and the result has been contributions of money and luxuries and delicacies, until the pantries and storerooms of the floating hospital now fairly creak with the load of them.

In the way of purely medical stores Dr. Torney has taken pains to supply everything. He last week sent on board several hundred cases of medicinal stores, which he described as "pills and powders." These special plants have been provided, which will add infinitely to the comfort of the sick. They are the distilling plant, the one for refrigerating plant and the plant for carbonizing water, the gift of the Colonial Dames. The first two will be indispensable in the south in furnishing a plentiful supply of pure and cold water, and the carbonizing plant will make the water more drinkable.

The wards are models in their way. The walls are painted white, the floors covered with rubber tiling and the beds of iron enameled in white. The beds have fine wire-woven springs and comfortable mattresses, which, being cheap, are thrown away as soon as soiled.

Bathrooms abound. They are connected with all the wards, with the private quarters of the medical staff and with those of the ship's officers. There is a special shower bath, which would be the making of any bathroom on land. It is for sick officers, and is so arranged that the shower throws hot or cold, fresh or salt water. All the bathrooms have rubber floors.

ENCKE'S COMET.

The Long Expected Celestial Wanderer is Finally Located in the Southern Hemisphere.

Astronomers have been on the watch for it for the past six weeks and more. It was first sighted in the southern hemisphere by Mr. Tebbutt at Sydney, N. S. W., June 11, says the Chicago Journal.

It is not likely that the comet will be seen at all at this return by astronomers in the northern hemisphere, as its position—near the star Procyon—is such that it rises at about seven a. m. and sets at eight p. m., and therefore is below the horizon for us during the night hours. In the southern hemisphere, where the season is now winter, it may be seen for a short time in the early evening.

This comet is of great interest to astronomers as the first discovered of the short-period comets and as that which has the shortest period of any comet known. For the last 80 years it has been recognized as a member of the solar system, circulating round the sun in a highly elliptical orbit in a period of 3 1/3 years, with the regularity of a planet. This is its twenty-third return since its first predicted return in 1822.

On some of its returns it has been bright enough to be seen with the naked eye, but usually it is a small, telescopic affair, of little interest to the public at large, save as one always likes to be informed when comets, even little ones, are hovering in the sky.

The same telegram from the Lick observatory, which announced the sighting of Encke by Mr. Tebbutt, reported also the discovery of a comet by Mr. Perrine in the Constellation Camelopardus. It is of the tenth magnitude, and therefore away below the reach of the naked eye.

ALL ARE SHARPSHOOTERS. American Soldiers Because of Modern Rifles and Long Practice Are Splendid Marksmen.

Sharpsshooters have disappeared from the army with the drummer boy, and the men who are generally assigned to the duty of picking off officers during the late civil war are no longer heard of. This is due to the modern formation of the army, and instead of troops fighting in close formation and double ranks of men massed together they are spread out over the field.

The sharpshooters in the late war, of whom so much has been written, were armed with a long rifle range, which gave them a great advantage over the troops in the ranks; but with the advent of a new rifle has all been changed, and every man in the ranks is now a sharpshooter and carries a shooting iron in the range of which is much greater than those used by the old sharpshooters. This government spends twice as much money in gun practice as any other three governments combined, which results in the men in the American way superior to any in the world.

SUBMARINE BOAT A SUCCESS. In a Trial Under Water at Milwaukee a Speed of Eight Knots an Hour is Attained.

After lying at the dock for over two months, and having innumerable repairs made, the Raddatz submarine boat was taken out for a trial the other afternoon, and was given a successful test of an hour and a quarter under water. The test was made in the Kinnickinnic river, and because of the narrowness of the stream the boat could not give a complete demonstration of its power. The test, however, was sufficient to prove that the boat can operate successfully under water.

A LIGHTNING BUG.

Buffalonian Sees One and Calls Fire Department.

While waiting its arrival the Buffalo Buffalonian Throwing Crockery and Furniture Out of the Window.

Nature evidently failed to supply that part of the world whence Tony Janinski came with lightning bugs, for the other night as Tony was sitting in the gloaming, and also in the parlor of his little home on the second floor of the building at 376 Wilson street, Buffalo, one of the tiny insects flew into the open window and flashed the light from his little lantern. Tony gasped with fright when he saw the sudden gleam, and thinking it was a spark of fire, he dashed for the window, stuck his head fat out and yelled "Fire!" at the top of his voice.

Then he made a mad run for his bedroom, and an instant later the second-story window was raining bedding, furniture and dishes. Tony worked manfully in the attempt to throw everything he possessed out of doors, and as he worked he kept up the mad call for the fire department. Some of the startled passers-by saw the goods and chattels descending and heard Tony loudly proclaiming the belief that his premises were aflame, and a call was sent in from the box at the neighboring corner, and engine No. 5 started on a fast run for the house.

While turning the corner of William and Kretzner streets the engine started a young man named John Karl, who lives at 905 Clinton street. He was on a bicycle and was perfectly safe, but he thought he was in the path of the approaching engine, and he dashed aside and ran over a small girl who was on the pavement. The collision threw Karl to the pavement, and the hook and ladder truck which accompanied the engine bore down on him. It passed over his wheel and smashed it to bits and one of the horse's hoofs struck young Karl on the left foot, bruising it badly.

All this was caused by the poor innocent little lightning bug which flew carelessly away just as the department arrived in front of the house. Karl went to the Fitch hospital, and the little girl went home. Janinski went out in the street collecting furniture.

A FOREST OF ICEBERGS. Trying Experience and Many Narrow Escapes of the British Steamship Aral.

The British steamship Aral, which has just arrived at New York from Shields after a voyage of 15 days, picked its way amid a forest of icebergs for 250 miles, and more than a dozen times narrowly escaped being crushed between the grinding, snapping masses that smashed and shattered one another in a battle of frozen giants.

"The wind was blowing strong from the southwest," said one of the Aral's officers, "and the bergs—half a dozen of them—were rising and falling ponderously with the heave of the ocean. Two of them had each a single open top 75 feet high that glittered like crystal. The Aral kept its course, but had not steamed two miles when I heard the lookout on the forecastle head yell: 'Iceberg on the starboard bow.' 'Iceberg ahead; stern all or we'll strike.'"

"The engines were reversed at full speed, and we backed away from one of the biggest masses of ice I ever wish to see at close quarters. It was at least 300 feet high, with precipitous sides, while near the top was an overhanging mass of ice that must have weighed a hundred tons. It was enough, any way, to have sunk the biggest vessel afloat.

Bulletin Financier.

Vendredi, 15 juillet 1898.

Table with columns for various financial items like COMPTON D'ORLANS, BOURSE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS, and various stock prices.

Table with columns for various financial items like BOURSE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS, various stock prices, and market news.

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Bulletin Commercial.

Vendredi, 15 juillet 1898.

Table with columns for various commercial items like COTON, various market prices, and market news.

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