

## SUNBOATS SHIPPED BY RAIL.

## WINS THE SOLDIERS.

**Sunboats** for Use of British Army on the Upper Nile.

While the British army is pushing its way up the Nile valley, it is achieving a most wonderful naval exploit. This is the carrying of gunboats along with the soldiers by railroad. To take warships ashore and overland seems like a comic opera drama at first glance. But it is really a very serious and scientific method of waging war. These gunboats, which are cut into sections and loaded upon freight cars, will be put together after the fashion of a portable canoe and launched on the upper Nile. This is done to overcome that world-old obstacle, the cataracts of the Nile. But these gunboats are no wooden scow-like affairs, says the Philadelphia Record. They are up-to-date steel vessels. To carry one of them requires a whole train of a dozen flatcars. When put together they are 20 feet long, with a beam of 21 feet. Each one will carry an armament of at least two, three or six-pound guns, and several smaller machine guns. Yet with this battery, formidable enough to turn loose on the Arabs along the river banks, these boats will draw but one foot ten inches of water. They can glide into shallow pools and float nearly anywhere that a canoe can go. They are flat-bottomed, with curved sterns and turbine propellers, thus employing every known device for operating in shallow waters.

## GIGANTIC HOSPITAL.

**Will Be Erected at Camp Wikoff Once by the War Department.**

Maj. Brown, who had charge of the hospitals at Camp Wikoff, has returned to New York city from Washington. He says he has been ordered to superintend the building of an immense hospital building. It will be ready by spring and will be erected at Montauk Point. It will be the largest building of its kind in the world. The sick from Cuba and Puerto Rico will be sent to the hospital in the spring.

Maj. Brown says it will take 40 officers one month to clean up all the work connected with the general hospital since it was established. Maj. Brown said:

The site has already been partly approved by Lieut. Durfee, the engineer. A complete system of tiled sewers will be put in; that is the first and most important point. The house will be made of brick and wood, and will be of a most substantial character.

The capacity will be practically unlimited and the apartments will be the most complete of any hospital in the world."

## SEEDS, NOT FOOD.

**President McKinley Decides an Important Point in Giving Aid to Cubans.**

After a consultation with the secretary of war President McKinley has decided not to send any more food to the starving Cubans at the present time, but they will be furnished with seeds with which to raise crops and make themselves self-sustaining.

The commissary department is not making any further effort to feed these people, and the wisdom of giving them food is doubted, as it is claimed, it will have a tendency to pauperize them. The president believes it would be much better to furnish them with implements and seeds to make themselves self-sustaining.

So much trouble was experienced in landing the supplies carried by the Comal that the plan to feed the Cuban has about been abandoned, and no more food will be sent.

The department does not know whether the supplies on this ship were fit for use when they arrived, as the ship was driven from port to port, but they were finally landed at Matanzas.

## HOW DEWEY GOT HIS COAL.

**Good Work Done by Naval Equipment Bureau Before the War Had Begun.**

Capt. Bradford, chief of the naval equipment bureau, has been settling up the heavy coal bills incurred during the war and has adjusted most of them.

Some realization of the forethought and discretion exhibited by the equipment bureau may be had from a statement of the fact that weeks before the declaration of war it had a number of sailing ships quietly creeping toward Asia laden with coal and with nothing to indicate that they were carrying it to Dewey or to render them liable to seizure or detention by the enemy or some severe neutral power.

Immediately upon the declaration of war a number of steamers were hurried along with more coal, and in consequence Dewey found himself in possession of no less than 40,000 tons of the best American coal to fight his battles with.

## Water Pipe Exported to Glasgow.

A few months ago the Glasgow corporation bought 1,000 tons of water pipe from this country, as the price was five dollars a ton less than the native article, making a net little difference of \$5,000. Bids for second supply have lately been received, and the difference has been reduced from \$5,000 to \$300.

## Turk of Great Girth.

Hamza Kassdarli, a Turk of Porto Farina, near Tunis, weighs 594 pounds. He had religious scruples against being weighed, but was enticed, without knowing it, to the platform of a scale.

## Germany's Beet Sugar Factories.

Germany has today 403 beet sugar factories, of which number Prussia has 612.

Duke of Connaught Makes Hit at French Army Maneuvers.

**Gives Splendid Display of Horsemanship, Examines Soldier's Knapsack and Tastes the Food in the Mess Kitchen.**

The duke of Connaught has been the hero of the French army maneuvers around Mouline, which he attended as President Faure's chief guest. He first distinguished himself by a splendid display of horsemanship before the French staff, when borrowed horse, started by the firing, tried to bolt, scared and fell. The duke skillfully disengaged himself unhurt.

On the following day, during a halt, he minutely examined a French soldier's knapsack. He had one of them emptied on the ground, weighed the articles and finally took the knapsack, strapping it on his own shoulders, and walked up and down in front of the president and the generals in order to test whether the straps hampered his movements. The spectators were greatly amused and the private soldiers loudly cheered him.

The duke of Connaught visited the French camp kitchens, and, following the great Napoleon's precedent, he asked to be allowed to taste the soldiers' food, remarking: "I must only take a tiny morsel, as I am robbing somebody's share."

Then he forked out and ate a slice of beef, which he pronounced to be of excellent quality.

The duke also examined the men's overcoats, testing their weight and texture.

These incidents have made the duke of Connaught very popular with the French soldiers and villagers. At the hamlet of Ennemont they had a great treat in seeing the thirsty president of the republic and Queen Victoria's stepson stop before a little public house and toss off glasses of light beer, while the hurriedly assembled band played "God Save the Queen."

President Faure has decorated the duke with the grand cross of the Legion of Honor.

## SEES THE PRESIDENT.

**Brave Gunner Jesse Gates the Worst Disfigured Man Who Has Returned from Cuba.**

Jesse Gates, of Rockford, Ill., who was a gunner in Grimes' battery, which took such a conspicuous part in the battle at San Juan hill, called upon the president the other day. He fired the first cannon from San Juan hill, and in the second day's fighting was wounded by a fragment of a Spanish shell, which tore away a portion of his upper lip and seven teeth. He claims to be the worst disfigured man who are there now and who may be discharged or resign will have trouble in getting away.

## GOVERNOR CARRIED WATER.

**Nurse Gives Orders to the Chief Executive of New Jersey and He Readily Obeys.**

Sick soldiers are constantly passing through Washington, and a number of women who live in the city have left their homes to administer to the soldiers and furnish them with the delicacies which are not supplied by the government. These women enter the train and perform the duties of nurses, which the government in many instances failed to supply.

When a New Jersey regiment passed through the city recently one of these women noticed a soldier who seemed to have but a short time to live and endeavored to cheer his few remaining hours. She needed a basin of water to wash the face of the suffering soldier and seeing a man dressed in citizen's attire standing near ordered him to bring it to her. He obeyed the order with alacrity, and several times he was ordered to "bring more water," which he did cheerfully. When the train was about to depart the woman thanked the citizen for his services and inquired who he was. Much to her surprise she learned that it was the governor of New Jersey who had been unostentatiously ministering to the soldiers of his state, who were returning from the fever-stricken camps of the south.

## WORK DELAYED.

**Government Annoyed by Quarantine That Stops Construction of Naval Coaling Station at Dry Tortugas.**

Work on the naval coaling station at the Dry Tortugas is seriously interfered with by the Florida state officials in declaring quarantine against the government reservation. As a consequence the important work of constructing a station at that point will be indefinitely postponed. The quarantine will be in force at least until November 15, and it becomes necessary on this account to extend the contract for dredging, pier construction, electric light work and coaling shed work. This work should have been completed within a month. The station is greatly needed as a depot of supplies for ships operating in the West Indies. The navy department authorities have had a great deal of trouble about this station since the bids were opened, which was during the war. There have been many impediments, and the latest is one which gives them much annoyance. It will not be possible to send workmen to the place, and those who are there now and who may be discharged or resign will have trouble in getting away.

## MAY BUILD ON LAKES.

**Prospect That High Commission Work in Quebec May Lead to Modification Treaty.**

Representative Foss, while at Washington, had conference with Secretary Long about the treaty of 1817, which limits the number of gunboats on the great lakes to one.

Secretary Long believes that as a result of the conference between the American and Canadian commissioners this treaty will be modified so as to enable shipbuilders on the lakes to secure contracts for building warships, which privilege is now denied them. One of the firms maintaining a plant on the lakes was the lowest bidder for the torpedo boats for which contracts have just been let. The bid was thrown out because it would have been a violation of the treaty to build it on the lakes.

Nothing has been done toward building the gunboat which is to replace the Michigan, because of the operations of the treaty. Its repeal or modification is important to the lake shipbuilders, and hopes are entertained that something will be agreed upon before the commission finishes its labors.

## SEA GIVES BACK GLASSES.

**Lieut. Hobson, However, Has to Dive Down into the Deep for Them.**

Lieut. Hobson has recovered the glasses which he had on board the Merrimac. They were taken by Admiral Cervera. When the admiral was at Annapolis he was asked about the glasses and in reply stated that he had left them aboard the Infanta Maria Teresa.

After that vessel was raised a search was made, but the glasses were not found. Lieut. Hobson, while looking overboard in the clear water one day, saw what might be his glasses. He dived overboard and discovered that the object which he saw was that for which he had been searching.

The glasses were recovered and shipped north to friends in New York.

## Singular Railway Accident.

One of the most singular of railway accidents was that near Genoa by which a dozen lives were recently lost. The Glori tunnel, in which it occurred, is very long, and so foul that the windows are shut, leaving the passengers to keep alive on what air is already in the car. But the engineers have no such support, and the accident was caused by the fact that all the drivers and firemen on the three engines needed to haul the train up the heavy grade of the tunnel were asphyxiated. The train consequently slipped back and plunged into a passenger train at the bottom of the incline.

**To a Good American: Treat me kindly and gently, as I am a patient in war from the Cristobal Colon, before forwarded by my captors, the crew of the Oregon to their gallant captain, Charles E. Clark.**

A box containing a large Maltese cat, addressed to Capt. Charles E. Clark, arrived by express at St. Joseph, Mich., the other day and was delivered to Capt. Clark's brother at the United States lighthouse station. A tag on the box was inscribed as follows:

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## Volga's Rank Among Great Rivers.

The Volga well merits being ranked among the great rivers of the world. It is navigable for over 2,000 miles, and within a few hundred miles of St. Petersburg.

## Pay of Steamer Captain and Crew.

The salary of a captain of a British trans-Atlantic liner is \$5,000 a year. The wages of the men are about \$22 per month.

## Turk of Great Girth.

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He had religious scruples against being weighed, but was enticed, without knowing it, to the platform of a scale.

## Germany's Beet Sugar Factories.

Germany has today 403 beet sugar factories, of which number Prussia has 612.

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