

LAUNCHING A BIG BATTLESHIP.

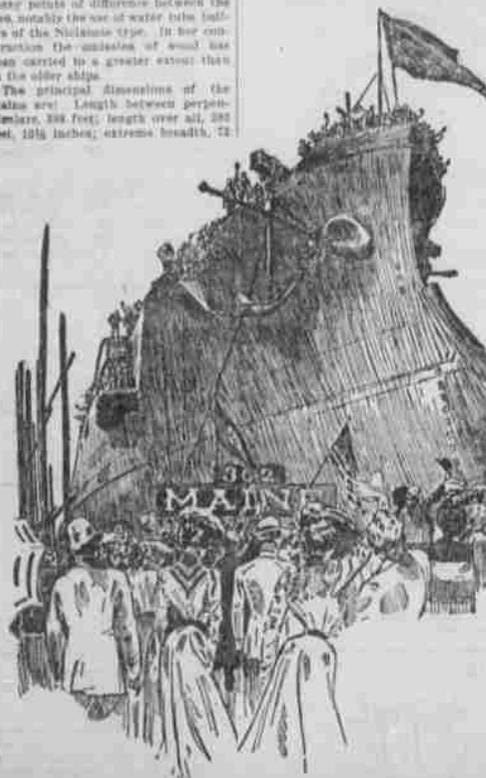
How a Battleship Looks When She Slides Into the Water.

The new battleship launched at Philadelphia the other day is expected to be ready for service about Oct. 1, 1909.

While the Maine is in most respects an improved Albatross, there are many points of difference between the two, notably the use of water tube boilers of the Niclausse type. In her construction the omission of wood has been carried to a greater extent than in the older ships.

The principal dimensions of the Maine are: Length between perpendiculars, 338 feet; length over all, 352 feet, 10 1/2 inches; extreme breadth, 72

12-inch breech-loading rifles, mounted in pairs in elliptical balanced turrets on the middle line, 14 six-inch rapid fire guns, mounted in barbette, eight 14-pounder, eight three-pounder and eight one-pounder and machine guns.



THE LAUNCHING OF THE MAINE.
The 338-foot battleship, 12,300 tons, full load displacement (estimated), 12,500 tons.
Her armament will consist of four

THE NEW MAINE.
The six-inch guns will be placed in recessed ports, the wings of which will be elongated to protect the muzzles when the guns are not firing.
There are two submerged torpedo

conclusion the expert and that although it was written, the committee had not yet decided upon the plan to be followed.

"I want to estimate the damage," said the judge. "Did any of these little girls die?" he asked Mrs. Collins.

"No, sir," she replied.

"I'll tell you how it was, judge," broke in the farmer. "The first turned medicine in the pen and said 'Wally, baby' the right way of times, and every one of them little pigs had teeth grow and went to sailing 'em right off."

A stickler of acknowledgment went around the courtroom. The judge checked the demonstration, rebuked the farmer and asked:

"Aunt Collins, did any of the children die as a result of losing the old hen?"

"No, sir," said "Aunt" Collins.

"No wonder they didn't die," cried the benevolent farmer. "Her old hen had a nest in the ash hole and a litter of young chickens. I tell you, that old woman is a witch. She just dropped them chickens right in with the kittens, and she made a chuck and put it on the old cat, and then chickens never noticed the difference."

This original explanation provoked such a howl in the court room that justice fled the farmer for contempt of court and made him pay Mrs. Collins the value of the property he had killed. Now the farmer, more than ever, believes that the old woman is a witch. He even tests that she is bewitched the judge.

Forward the protective duck will be

2 1/2 inches thick, while aft, where there is no armor bulk, it is four feet on the slope and three inches on the flat.

The Maine is designed to make 18 knots. She will have twin screws, and her two main engines will be triple expansion, of the inverted vertical type. The high-pressure cylinder will be 25 1/2 inches in diameter, the intermediate pressure cylinder 15 inches and the low pressure 9 1/2 inches. The length of stroke will be 42 inches. The engines will be of about 1,800 horse power.

Back the whiskey firm's delivery wagon a "juicy" cart

climbed the fence, carrying a brown. The farmer saw her coming and fled. Incontinently, he had no mind to face that omnipotent wrath, and moreover, he had heard of "witch brew" and "witch brooms."

He believed that if one of those brooms were thrown over a man's head he would ever afterward be going in the witch that captured him.

"Aunt" Collins, however, did not pursue him. She collected in her callow upon the chickens that were scuffling about in the grass. She decided that the old hen was too badly shattered even for a fricassee, and so she left her on the field.

Now this was too much for the old woman to bear, and she brought suit against the farmer. The case came before a local justice at Fort Fairfield. It attracted much attention for the farmer asserted that he would be perfectly justified in shooting even "Goody" Collins herself. He lay at her door all his long list of misadventures and lags.

Mrs. Collins went on the stand and related that she was merely a poor old widow, with a little plot of ground and a few live chickens. She declared with much indignation that she knew no more about witchcraft than she did about astronomy. She said that any man who made such talk about her ought to be sent to a lunatic asylum.

She asked that the man who had persecuted her be made to pay for the animals he killed. The farmer told his story, but the judge informed him that he must prove that Mrs. Collins was some direct connection with the alleged happenings. In

trip down. This they did time and again, their comrades at the upper end watching them with great interest until it came their turn to coast. The coasting ground was about 150 yards from top to bottom, and the chances would shoot down it with the speed of a shot.

The snow falling about them in a powdery cloud. There could be no doubt whatever that they did it for sport, and they seemed to enjoy it as much as boys enjoy coasting down a well-packed hill.

Oruz (milk) green—Discard.

HEAT OF SUN SPOTS.

SCIENTISTS LOOK FOR LAW OF WEATHER CHANGES.

After the Atlix in Forecast Weather For Long Period by study of Sun's Surface.—Continuation of Solar and Terrestrial Meteorology.

A little over a year ago Camille Flammarion, the famous French scientist, observed the great sun spots including the one discovered by Allen Marens, and predicted that the earth was about to enter upon a period of five years, the summers of which would be the hottest in its history. He was laughed at by scientists, but he held to his prediction. Revisions will remember the hot heat of last summer. No one is likely to forget the sweltering days of July of this year for a long time to come. Camille Flammarion big day to make good his prophecy. Yet even now, meteorologists and astronomers refuse to believe that he has established any direct connection between terrestrial weather and sun spots. It is true that a connection has for a long time been suspected, but nothing definite in the way of a law has been discovered. That we shall soon be in a position to forecast the seasons by means of a study of the chemical or physical condition of the sun seems likely.

The sun, far from being a great star of varying physical characteristics, varies very materially and is very much hotter and brighter at certain periods than it is at others. Its probable temperature at its normal state is about 12,522 degrees Fahrenheit, or 7,000 centigrade, but its radiation of heat year by year is not even, so that in certain years the earth receives much more heat than it does at others, and in consequence important meteorological changes are set up, the precise nature of which science seems to be just on the edge of unravelling. For instance, the great British astronomer, Sir Norman Lockyer, has just announced his conclusion that the seasonal rainfall and great heats in India follow certain changes in the sun and that the famines of India, which bring such unspeakable misery and are to be reckoned millions of this unfortunate country, can be forecast from known solar changes. But as the weather of India is not an isolated phenomena but is interwoven with that of Africa and in its turn with that of the western hemisphere, a weather cycle in one country is unquestionably duplicated in others. At present, however, no one has worked out the data for the north temperature zone sufficiently to discover what this critical change in our weather is that follows the variation of the physical state of the sun. Sir Norman, however, believes we shall see at the height of change after long and will be able to forecast weather over long periods by a study of the sun's surface. For instance, a huge sun spot was observed in the sun recently, which was of such magnitude as to cause much surprise among astronomers, since the sun is now at a period when the sun spots are the least frequent. Conditions, sir, however, frequent. Conditions, sir, however, frequent. Conditions, sir, however, frequent.

The North American supplies are visibly declining. China has no timber to spare, and that country, when developed on modern lines, will be an importer rather than an exporter. These remain the rest of Asia, South America and Africa as sources of supply. But these do not furnish any considerable amount of coniferous woods, which are most in demand. Dr. Schlich, therefore concluded that the danger of a deficient supply of coniferous wood was practically at hand, and that deficiency of all would soon occur unless remedial measures were adopted. The remedy is easy, although time is required for its application. It is, as Dr. Schlich pointed out, to cultivate timber upon waste land, just as other crops are cultivated upon more fertile soil. In Great Britain alone there are 25,000,000 acres of such lands. One quarter of this area, Dr. Schlich asserted, would make the country independent of foreign supplies of timber. The same remedy would restore the declining timber industry of the United States.—The Forester.

THE ISLAND OF TODAY.

The Rt. Hon. James Bryce, a careful observer, and Mr. Seumas MacManus, the Irish writer, agree that Ireland today is enjoying comparative prosperity. The people are living better, their food is of a higher grade, the bank deposits have increased, the farm rents are larger. The main reason why it does not take its place as one of the rich countries of the world is its lack of manufacturing. It exists mainly on the agriculture and its fisheries. Ireland contains 32,237 square miles, not including the 196 little islands which add 246 square miles to the total. It is not quite so large as Indiana and is a little larger than South Carolina. The Philippine islands are four times the size of all Ireland. Less than five years ago a commission appointed by parliament reported that there had been placed upon Ireland a taxation burden which it was unable to bear and that something should be done. Thus came the new land act, which was a mitigation, but not a reform, of the evils.—Philadelphia Saturday Evening Post.

Following to Ireland.

Halmstad, wishing to know what was considered a good score by local players on the Halmstad links, asked our young friend: "What they get round in here?" and was answered: "They tries to go round in as few as possible, ma'am, but they mostly takes more!"—Punch's "Penelope's Irish Experiences."

The inhabitants of the province of Ontario write more letters than those of all the rest of Canada.

THE POLAR BEAR.

A Black Coward Who Begged Pardon to Face With Man.

The character of the polar bear is a curious mixture of cowardice and daring, for it will fly at the sight of man, but will often come close up to the feet and sometimes even try to maul them, says Lockhart Field. When met in the water bears are killed with harpoons. On receiving the first wound the animal utters loud roars, waves the weapon with its teeth, pulls its ear of the injured part and hurries far away sometimes, but by no means invariably, it will then upon its assailant. Quickly it receives another spear, or third arrow, from a second kayak man, against whom it turns after trussing his weapon in the same manner and sometimes breaking it, and in this way the struggle is continued until the bear is overcome. The most important precautionary rule which the hunters have to observe is, when during the fight the animal has dived, to keep a sharp lookout down into the water in order that it may not come up unawares right under a kayak. Its great power can always be seen when it approaches the surface, and there is time to get away if it is coming too near. When a bear is encountered in the water or amid somewhat scattered ice its capture is considered a certainty, for although an excellent swimmer, it cannot get away from a kayak. In the northern colonies, where they are seldom seen, the Greenlanders appear to be afraid of them, but such is far from being the case in the Jaffanah district, where, in the water, at any rate, they are considered as much less dangerous than the walrus or the hooded seal. The foot of bears consists mainly of seals, which, however, they cannot seize in the water, but only when lying on the shore or on ice, but as the seal, when in such positions, is extremely watchful and wary, the still is often fruitless, and the bear is obliged more frequently than with it to depart with an empty stomach. Carcasses they take at any time. In summer they rub birds' nests of eggs and young ones, and appear to be partial also to berries.

WOOD GETS SCARCER.

Disappearing Before the World's Increasing Consumption.

Dr. W. Schlich, the well-known forest expert, in a recent address before the London Society of Arts, predicted a positive timber famine in the near future unless systematic measures for increasing the world's supply be speedily adopted. He pointed out that the use of wood, in spite of its replacement by coal as fuel and by steel in construction, was steadily increasing. The per capita consumption in the four chief countries of Europe is now fourteen cubic feet each year, and in a few years will probably reach twenty cubic feet. For this increase the use of wood in paper making seems chiefly responsible. The steady rise in prices, especially of coniferous woods, in spite of much cheaper transportation, shows that the world's supplies are rapidly diminishing. Only five out of eighteen European countries export more timber than they import. Scandinavia and Russia are the principal exporters. The limit of production in the former seems to have been reached. Russia still has large forests, but domestic demands are rapidly increasing, and an exportable surplus cannot be depended upon.

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As the situation shapes up today the scientific world is on the look out for law of causation that connects solar changes with the great droughts, great floods and excessive heat waves that mark our weather at definite periods. And it looks as if some clever observer would soon wrest the secret from the sun spots and the vagaries of American summer weather even if none of the suggested periods seem to be revealed in the actual recorded weather data.

Geologic Telegraphy.

Experiments with Geologic telegraphy were recently made between Berlin and Hamburg. Simultaneous duplex telegraphy, working both ways on the same wire, has already been in use for some time between Berlin and Paris by means of the Hertz apparatus, by which two telegrams can be dispatched in both directions at the same time. The American physicist, Henry Rowland, who died a short while ago, invented an apparatus for dispatching eight telegrams simultaneously—four in each direction—on a single wire. This was exhibited at the Paris exhibition last year. The German Imperial telegraph Administration has allowed a wire between Berlin and Hamburg to be used for such experiments.

Legacy for Massachusetts.

The municipality of Berlin will receive 1,000,000 marks for benevolent purposes under the will of Dr. George Vierling, the composer, who died in Wiesbaden recently.

Harriet Prescott Spofford's Home.

Harriet Prescott Spofford lives on a beautiful little island in the middle of the Merrimack river, near Newburyport, forty miles from Boston. A part of each winter, however, she spends in Boston and in Washington.

A New Trolley Line Between New York and Connecticut promises a regular run of sixty miles an hour outside of city limits.

Said an Irishman: "If a Yankee was cast away on a desolate island he'd get up early the next morning and sell every inhabitant a map of the place."

MAINE WITCHCRAFT A TROUBLESOME THING

A hard-working and active young farmer who lives a few miles out of the village of Limington, in Aroostook county, Me., is a firm believer in witchcraft. A short time ago the man came into the village of Fort Fairfield and consulted a lawyer in regard to a certain old woman in Limington. The farmer declared that he had bewitched his cows. He said that the old woman was also doing other things to bother him. He told how a few days before he was driving a yoke of oxen which drew a two-wheeled cart. He said that when they were passing along a piece of road that skirted a lake, the witch, making herself invisible, pulled the hitch-pin out of one of the axles and away went the wheel. It rolled down through a pasture, so the farmer declared, the witch steering it and keeping it upright, until splash! into the lake it went.

He was greatly offended when the attorney informed him that witchcraft wasn't recognized in law in these days. The farmer went home declaring that he would take the law in his own hands. Out of this determination has come a rather singular case in court. It seems that this "Aunt" Collins, whom the farmer accused of witchcraft, owns some troublesome live stock. The farmer believes that such animals that the good wife owns is inspired by the devil. One day "Goody" Collins' old cow and her family of little rooters slid under the division fence and began sucking in a potato field owned by the young farmer. The old porker had been there several times before, and this time the farmer was ready for her. He had hidden some bullets, into the center of each of which he had put a little square of stomach wood. For years this wood had been known as "witch wood," and it is said by those who believe in such things that it is a sure charm to overcome "black art." When the stomach-wooded mother pig and her family fastened on his potato seed he took down his gun, put in one of the en-

magined bullets, and drew a bead on the cow. He tripped her at the first shot, and the motherless litter fled home squealing. "Aunt" Collins collected them and brought them up on warm milk as best she could.

A few days after the tragedy of the potato field another of "Goody" Collins' barnyard families, a bustling, clucking hen, with a brood of fluffy chicks, made her way through a hole in the old fence and got into the barley sown wheat field. When the young farmer spotted her she was shutting out a regular sand pig and the dirt and seeds were flying above her head. Behind her were the chicks, busily gobbling every grain that showed itself. Once more the farmer loaded his gun and he stalked the old hen, who was absorbed in her bustle for her family. Bang! and the hen was a dragged bunch of feathers and the brood was motherless.

When "Goody" Collins heard the sound of the gun she guessed what was going on, and, despite her 80 years she rushed out of her little house and



THE FARMER FLED.

to play on it. Their movements were so peculiar that he watched them carefully. They had found a strong, snow-covered hillside, to the upper end of which they went in a body, just like a party of boys intent on coasting. And that is precisely what the chamois intended, for two or three of them at a time would crouch down at the beginning of the descent, work all four legs to get a start, and slide over the surface of the snow in a body, just like a party, shake themselves, and climb up the incline again, only to repeat their

trip down. This they did time and again, their comrades at the upper end watching them with great interest until it came their turn to coast. The coasting ground was about 150 yards from top to bottom, and the chances would shoot down it with the speed of a shot.

The snow falling about them in a powdery cloud. There could be no doubt whatever that they did it for sport, and they seemed to enjoy it as much as boys enjoy coasting down a well-packed hill.

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