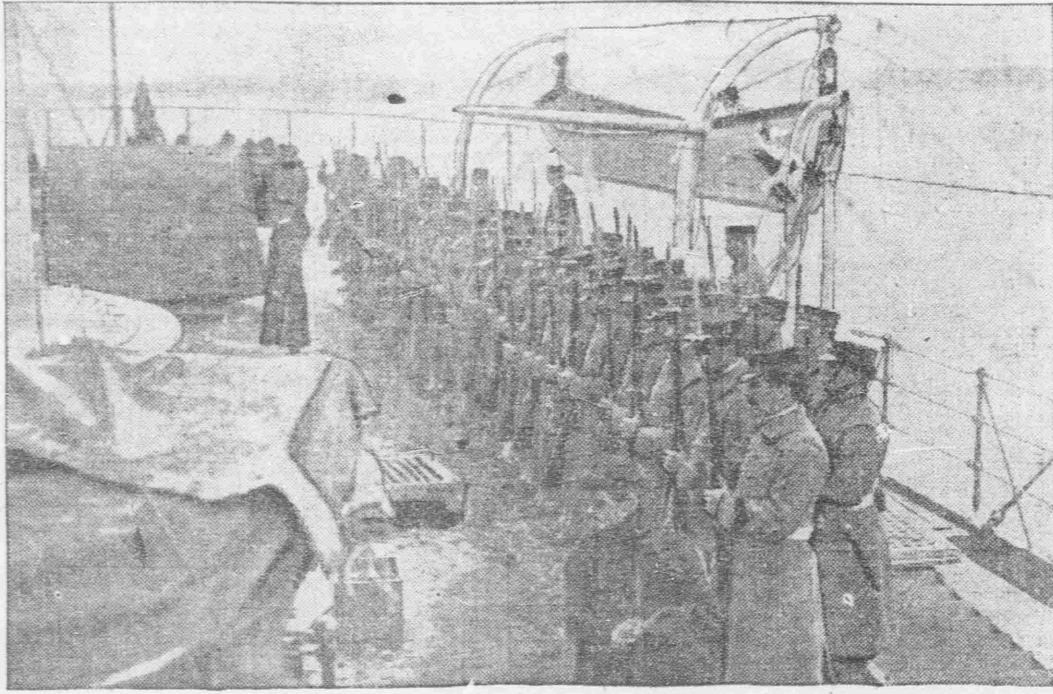


HOW UNCLE SAM'S BIG BATTLESHIPS ARE COMMISSIONED



THE MARINE GUARD SALUTES.

More to Be Done Than is Generally Supposed--Hard Work Follows the Official Trial Trip--The Maine's Commander



ONE OF THE OFFICERS.



GOING ABOARD.

THE new battleship Maine has been placed in commission. That is the way the news reaches the general reader of newspapers. To him it conveys the fact that the finest vessel of her class afloat, the pride of the American navy, has been placed in active service of the department, that her crew has gone aboard and her flag is flying. But neither this simple announcement, nor any similar one telling of the commissioning of a man-of-war gives any idea of all the toll necessary before such a craft, new from the hands of her builders, a huge mass of metal that only yesterday--counting time as such things go--was on the ways, is prepared for her seacircling errands of war or peace.

Not Ready for Business.

To view one of these modern instruments of ocean warfare speeding on her final trial trip, with guns aboard and ballast-laden to her waterline, her funnels burying her in a dense soft-coal cloud from midships aft, anyone would think that at a moment's notice this grim, determined-looking craft could take her appointed place in bombardment or blockade, or in "the far-flung

battle line." Those tubes of steel, thrice burnished, gleaming in the sunlight, seem as though it needed but their crews and the lanyard drawn taut to make them flash another kind of fire. But it is not so. Save, perhaps, for the power hidden in her heavy ram-like prow and the strength of her armor-girdled sides, this big fellow is as harmless as any solemn old ferryboat that ever plied monotonously from shore to shore in her native stream.

The men behind the guns are not there, nor yet the ammunition for those guns, and, more important still, those things without which the man behind the guns cannot exist--stores and provisions--are lacking. Her bunkers, too, are not filled. There is only what is needful to send the future fighter over the course between the stake boats, and to return to her port. At this stage of things a warship is very much of a Quaker institution.

In the Government's Charge.

But the test is successful. The vessel has come up to her requirements. Perhaps some few changes have been made at the suggestion of navy officers. Then she is turned over to the Government. A force of bluejackets is at once sent

aboard. A scrupulous housewife, viewing the vessel through the decks, as she now appears, would probably give up in disgust and despair. Dirt! dirt--everywhere. Soft coal smoke has left its blight with a vengeance. Marks of grimy hands are seen. Brass works lack their traditional luster, and the decks appear as if holy-sent had never come into a sailorman's ken.

But Jack is more than a housekeeper. He is, as his name implies, a jack-of-all-trades. If new paint is needed, he supplies it. He scrubs and he polishes. He has a hundred and one things to do before things can be called ship-shape.

In the case of the new Maine greater haste than usual was observed in placing the warship in commission. Her marine guard went aboard before she was provisioned or fully manned, or her bunkers filled with coal. As a rule, Jackie's work all came first. When the marines march on board, it is to take part in the ceremony of declaring the ship formally commissioned.

The Marine Guard.

The preparation of this marine guard is not one of the least important things to be done. Each man must draw his entire outfit--dress and fatigue uniforms, suits of khaki for wear in the tropics,

and heavier campaign materials for more northern climates. Overcoats are carried and so are the lightest summer flannels. Everything that the service issues to a man is taken along--it may be needed, and when it is wanted it is like a revolver in Texas--it is needed badly. Ditty boxes, too--those little chests designed to slip under a berth and used by non-commissioned officers for odds and ends--are packed, and hammocks made ready.

Jackie takes only one hammock aboard ship. But Mr. Marine is a star boarder. He carries two--so that he always has one clean. And he does nothing in the way of carrying things on board--he is no stevedore. Jackie must do this, too.

Jackie likewise comes in most handy when the little red pennant is flying--

the signal that ammunition is being taken aboard and that it might be just as well to keep away. And coaling--of course, it is the bluejacket who does it all, and cleans up all the grime left when the work is accomplished.

The Men Behind the Boilers.

Others, too, go aboard. They are neither officers nor sailors nor marines--non-combatants they are called, these men whose labor is at the very vitals of the ship. They are the stokers, the coal passers, the oilers, and whatnot who live amid bunkers and boilers, in a temperature always stifling, and made like an inferno when the mighty breath of the forced draft is felt.

Marines on Quarter Deck.

But at length all this work has been completed. Invited guests are on board, if the occasion is to be a public one. Dress uniforms are the proper thing. The marines are marched to the quarter-deck and there lined up facing aft. The bluejackets are also similarly lined up. If any speeches are to be delivered they are then made. A band is stationed nearby. As the flag on the after star is raised, the marines and Jackies, presenting arms meanwhile, the

melody of "The Star-Spangled Banner" resounds.

It is a gala occasion. The ship is "dressed"--every signal flag and other bit of bunting is floating merrily from stem to stern. The slowly rising Stars and Stripes at the after flagstaff are mastheaded. The music ceases.

End of the Ceremony.

That is all. Commands are given arms brought to a "carry," the officers sheath their swords, the men return to quarters. A new vessel has been added to the nation's immediately available fighting force.

In case of a warship that has been laid up out of commission, all these things and more have to be done. When a ship is placed out of commission she is practically dismantled and all things movable--guns and all--are taken from her. Worn-out portions of machinery and old boilers are removed and are not replaced until she is to go into active service again.

The Maine's Commander.

Captain Leutz, the commander of the Maine, is a popular man with all classes of the men under him. He is regarded

as strict but just--and that is every-thing afloat. His reputation as captain of the Washington Navy Yard is an enviable one. Here is a characteristic story of his manner:

Workmen at the yard, arriving so many minutes late must go up and report before they are allowed to go to their shops. Of course, all sorts of excuses are offered. Captain Leutz was quick to see through these if any was false.

"Well, why are you late?" one man was asked.

"Really, captain, I do not see how it could possibly have occurred. Perhaps my clock was wrong--yes, it must have been wrong, captain."

"H'm! You had better take four days off, without pay. That will give you time to regulate your clock."

Then the next delinquent is admitted.

"What have you to say?"

"Why, captain, I went out with some friends--we all got to drinking and I had a 'jag.' So I wasn't able to get up this morning."

"All right. Go to work."

Men soon learn to know, under such a commander, that it pays to be honest.

CURRENT NEWS AND GOSSIP IN THE WORLD OF ART

THOMAS MORAN, the veteran painter of Rocky Mountain scenery and Venetian pictures, is spending his holiday vacation in this city. Mr. Moran in a conversation with one of his old-time acquaintances stated that the past year had been a very prosperous one, and that all his pictures offered for sale during the season had found ready purchasers.

The receiving days for exhibits for the coming exhibition of the Society of Washington Artists have been fixed for January 20 and 31. The exhibition will open February 9, and continue until February 26. As a concerted effort will be made by the officers of the society to secure work from prominent out-of-town artists, it may be expected that this exhibition, the thirteenth held by this society, will be the leading art event of the season.

It is rumored that among other exhibitions of the season we shall be favored with a sight of the portrait work of John W. Alexander, and there is some prospect that the work of the "Photo-Scenists" will also be shown here during the winter.

From the latest newspaper reports it now appears that the first medal of the Turin exposition has been awarded to William B. Dyer, of Chicago, for the general excellence of his photographic work. Reports have been very conflicting concerning the award of this first medal for photography. It has apparently gone the rounds of the leading exhibitors, and has

been given to Alfred Steiglitz, Edouard J. Steichen, Gertrude Kasebier, and the question of the ownership of this much awarded medal seems at the present time as much a matter of guesswork as ever. It is only fair to state in view of the conflicting reports that without doubt the work of any of these persons would fully entitle them to a medal in any representative exhibition.

James H. Moser has been spending the week at Wellbourne, Va., where he has been engaged in painting a portrait for a patron whose age prevented his coming to Washington to sit for his portrait. Mr. Moser has also been actively engaged during his vacation in making sketches for after work of that section of Virginia, one not often selected as paintable at this season of the year.

The management of the Chicago Art Institute has perfected arrangements for sending the work of the pupils at frequent intervals to New York to be criticized by that eminent painter and instructor, W. M. Chase. The arrangement also includes the assurance that some of the best work from the pupils of the Chase School will be sent to Chicago for study and comparison by the students of the Art Institute.

A peculiar complaint has been voiced by one of the New York papers concerning the present tendency to commercialism in art, which bases the complaint upon the publication during each week of the present season of an art

sheet known as "Hyde's Weekly Art News," which contains the current art news and a schedule of art sales and art exhibitions. The complaint of the commercialism of the present day is probably as true of art as of other matters, but the convenience of having art news presented in a concise form, while a departure from former methods, should not be confused with an attempt to cheapen art, or make its charm less, or its worth more a matter of bargain and sale.

Among the pictures on exhibition at the Veerhoff Gallery are some creditable canvases by Washington artists, Lucien Powell is represented by a painting of a carnival on the Grand Canal, Venice, a much painted theme, but one that is always full of interest when well done on account of the opportunity to present a subject rich in coloring. H. Hobart Nichols has one small canvas in this collection, "Lengthening Shadows," presenting a picture with a long foreground with a scattered clump of trees from which the shadows show clearly not only the lateness of the hour but the lateness of the season. There is a nice feeling of plenty of room and pleasant valleys just over the hill, and the work is restful and sweet in its simplicity. Max Weyl has several landscapes, of which a wood interior and an evening twilight seem the most interesting and attractive in their selection and presentation. Wells M. Sawyer exhibits a spirited picture of the sea with the storm clouds faintly suggested and the breaking of the surf

handled in a finished, smooth style of painting. R. L. Johnson exhibits several landscapes with sheep and cattle as the leading points of interest, some of which are painted in a manner that is far less pleasing than one of his smaller canvases, a road scene in Vermont, which seems to contain far more love for the art of painting than some of his landscapes included in this same collection. A small study of trees in autumn foliage painted by C. Linford seems to be the most interesting subject of this exhibition, for the reason that the artist seems to have interpreted with rare skill the true coloring and atmosphere of autumn.

New York seems to have taken the lead in the production of high art catalogues for art sales. The cost of producing the catalogue of articles to be offered at the coming sale of the Marquand collection was \$50 a copy. The photographic reproductions of some of the paintings offered for sale are said to give in an unusual manner the quality of tone of the originals. This catalogue will be much sought after by collectors, and as the edition is limited it will naturally rapidly enhance in value.

The statement is made that J. Pierpont Morgan, acting under the advice of expert legal counsel, will test the question of his right to bring to this country from his London residence, his fine art collection, valued at over \$2,500,000, free of duty. The contention of this right will be based on that provision of the Dingley tariff law which permits the ad-

mission of household effects actually used by the owners abroad for not less than one year. While it may seem to some as an unusual thing for an art collection to be considered as "household effects," still the determination of what constitutes the effects of a household will come within the province of the Treasury Department to decide, and it will not be at all surprising if the decision (if the matter should be brought to a test) would be made in favor of the contestant. It certainly would not be more unusual for a person of Mr. Morgan's wealth to own an art collection valued at several millions than for a family of moderate means to own a music box, and claim exemption of duty on this article on the same grounds--that it had been owned and used by the owner abroad for more than a year.

The growth of art museums in this country seems to be keeping pace with the growth of prosperity. In Chicago changes have recently been made in the location of some of the society rooms which are permanently housed in the Art Institute for the purpose of making some much needed extensions of the building. In Pittsburg a long contemplated addition to the Carnegie Institute will soon be commenced, and for this purpose Mr. Carnegie has set aside the sum of \$300,000. In New York the new wing of the Metropolitan Museum has recently been completed and thrown open to the public. In Boston, at the Art Museum, a newly arranged room, devoted to Greek terra cottas, has re-

cently been arranged for public exhibition. It is considered the finest collection of Greek terra cottas in this country, and its rank is the fifth of all of the collections of that class of art in the world. One of the unusual features of the exhibition is the display not only of a large number of originals, but also of a large number of forgeries. This opportunity to compare originals with those which are manufactured for the purpose of sale to unsuspecting collectors, will be exceedingly valuable to all who are smitten with the fever for collecting antiques of this class. So long as people can be duped by counterfeit, the market will always be well supplied. Education in this direction will save many an honest collector from the chagrin of purchasing worthless reproductions, believing them to be genuine antiques.

The project of Wilson Macdonald, of New York, to place busts of Washington and Lincoln in all of the public schools of the District, will no doubt receive proper consideration if those who have the matter entrusted to them for decision are assured that the plan arises from patriotism and not from commercialism, and that the object will bear the test of suitable art standards. While it may be true that it is more important to have busts of these great national characters on exhibition in the school rooms than copies of the antique, it is equally true that the scholars of the District should have placed before them only examples of good art. Patriotism

should not be stimulated by unworthy examples of the art of the sculptor so long as there are sculptors who are competent to handle these subjects in a commendable manner. Let us have good Washingtons and good Lincolns in our public schools or else be content with examples of the antique.

The fourth annual exhibition of the American Society of Miniature Painters is now in progress at the Knoedler gallery in New York, and will continue until January 10. It contains 113 examples of the art of the miniature painter, and is the largest exhibition held by this society. The advantage of a separate exhibition of this class of work cannot be overestimated. To hang such work in an ordinary exhibition of paintings often results in the work being overshadowed by the large frames, and sometimes relegated to a place on the wall wholly unsuited for the proper inspection of this beautiful branch of art work.

One of the art clubs of New York devised a novel form of entertainment for the guests of the club at one of the evenings during the Christmas holidays. The model who had been posing for the club during the week was posed for this occasion at a mammoth punch bowl. Her draperies were of pink satin and chiffon, and the illumination of the room was accomplished by the light from the burning sugar, afterward used in compounding the Christmas color scheme. CHARLES E. FAIRMAN.

IMPORTANT ART OF MANICURE MEN AND WOMEN SOLD INTO BONDAGE PLENTY OF BIG GAME IN AFRICA

MUCH has been said about the art of manicure, but few girls out of their scanty pocket money can afford the fee of a professional manicure. However, a girl with a steady and light hand, after a little practice, can manicure as well as most professionals.

For the result to be satisfactory the nails should be well and carefully manicured at least once a week, and should be polished daily. Here is a list of necessary instruments:

1. Polisher, cuticle knife, cuticle scissors, nail scissors, ivory nail presser, steel file, emery boards, orange wood sticks, nail paste, nail powder, and cleansing fluid. A manicure case is a very expensive article, indeed, to buy--that is, one properly stocked with good instruments; however, all instruments can be bought separately, which will be found far more satisfactory than purchasing a cheap manicure case.

1. Cut the nails the shape desired, file them carefully with a steel file, and then with an emery board, using the coarse side; now give a few downward strokes to the extreme edge of the nails with the fine side of the emery board. This removes any unevenness

that may have been caused by the use of the steel file.

2. Immerse both hands in a warm, soapy lather for a few minutes; dry, then gently loosen with a cuticle knife, the cuticle adhering to the nail; should this be long or ragged, trim carefully with the cuticle scissors.

3. Dip an orange wood stick into the cleansing fluid and moisten round and underneath the cuticle; this fluid removes all stains from the nails or finger tips.

4. Use the Ivory presser, beginning at the edge of the nail and working round, carefully pressing back the skin.

5. Apply a little paste to each nail, and on to this dust a little powder; polish lightly and quickly; apply more powder, and repolish.

Great care must be taken in using the cuticle knife, as one is apt to injure the enamel, especially when operating on the nails of the right hand.

He Drew Well.

"How does your son draw in his political campaign?" asked the stranger.

"Pretty heavy," replied the old man.

"He drew on me yesterday for \$100, and I'm expecting of another draw by next mail!"--Atlanta Constitution.

THERE is a law under which men and women are sold into temporary bondage in Kentucky. It is known as the vagrant act, and was passed by the Legislature as long ago as 1795. Only a few weeks ago Sheriff W. L. Lawson, of Lancaster, acted as auctioneer and sold several of the vagrants. The sales take place every month or so, in all the counties, and a big crowd attends each time. The aged vagrant act, which has been amended slightly once or twice in the last half a century, shows that certain popular games of today were popular in Colonial times, and mention is made especially of "Pharaoh" banks, all "Pharaoh" dealers or managers being described as salable criminals.

It is after an indictment by the grand jury that the prisoner is auctioned. The prosecution is criminal in nature, and under the law the accused is entitled to "the benefit of reasonable doubt." If found guilty he must go into servitude, but the period of slavery is temporary, if he is an adult it lasts only twelve months, and if he is a child he must serve until his twenty-first birthday. Very often the purchaser is some one whom the vagrant has asked to buy him, and in such cases the lot of the latter is

not hard, for he lives at ease upon the resources of his purchaser, who is often his relative.

The law of 1795 was called "An act to prevent the increase of vagrants and other idle and disorderly persons within this State." In section 1 it is enacted:

"That every able-bodied person who is found loitering or rambling about not having wherewithal to maintain himself by some visible property, and who doth not betake himself to labor or some honest calling to procure a livelihood; and all persons who may be found begging, and who quit their habitation and leave their wives and children without suitable means of subsistence whereby they suffer or become chargeable to the county; and all and every keeper and keepers, exhibitor or exhibitors or either of the gambling tables called A. R. C. or E. O. tables or of a Pharaoh bank, or any other table or bank of the same kind under any denomination whatever; and all other idle and dissolute persons rambling about without any visible means of subsistence, shall be deemed and treated as vagrants."

The remaining sections of the act deal with the details of the punishment, and the whole law takes up chapter 132 of the Kentucky statutes. For many years

it contained a provision that the vagrant must be whipped publicly if nobody appeared to buy him, but this section was repealed. The number of lashes by the public whipper was limited to twenty-five.

Out of the proceeds of a vagrant's sale are paid the fees and expenses of the prosecution, and whatever money is left has to be applied to the payment of debts of the once free citizen. Should there be a second remainder, it is given to the wife and children, if the criminal has any, but if he be wifeless and childless the money is kept for him until the end of his term of service. If a married vagrant, after having been convicted, can scrape together \$100 for a bond, with good surety, he is allowed to go home when he gives a promise to reform and adhere to hard work. Should he fail later to keep this promise his bond is forfeited.

Several of the lower courts have declared the statute of 1795 to be illegal, but the highest courts have not had a chance to pass on the matter. The cases involving vagrants have never been appealed to the high courts, for the obvious reason that vagrants are not a class of people with money enough for extensive litigation.

ACCORDING to a sporting correspondent in "West Africa," there is still plenty of work for big game hunters in the French Congo.

"Don't believe the yarns you hear," he writes, "about the elephants being all dead. There are thousands within twenty miles of the sea beach, and a great many not ten miles away. I killed one myself within sound of the surf."

So plentiful are the elephants in the district, says this enthusiastic sportsman, that the natives would give anything to have them killed off. What with wild buffaloes, elephants, deer, and other game, the farmer has a lively time. The desire of his life is to find the man who can make an unbreakable fence.

But the list of the sportsman's good things is not exhausted. Not only are there elephants in herds, "playing havoc with the plantations," but one may expect visits from numerous families of chimpanzees in search of bananas, with an odd six-foot gorilla or two thrown in.

"Owing to the depopulation of the district from various causes, the animals are increasing at a great rate, and the bush being dense, they can hide themselves from the wily hunter. But one

animal does not care a hang for the bush, and that is the elephant. He simply sails right through it, as if it were so much growing corn.

"I have come to the conclusion that the elephant is the most brainy brute in Africa," adds the correspondent. "He seems to have thinking powers nearly akin to man, and you would be surprised did you see how agile these apparently huge, clumsy beasts can be."

LUCKY TOREADORS.

THAT a good bull-fighter can make a fortune in a single season is recent statistics show.

Here is what Mazzantini, Reverte, and Guerrita have accomplished in one season:

Mazzantini took part in sixty-six bull fights and killed 168 bulls; Reverte took part in seventy-one and killed 160, and Guerrita took part in seventy-six and killed 147. As a reward Mazzantini obtained 396,000 francs, Reverte 376,000 francs, and Guerrita 456,000 francs.

"Buthers in every country," says a French writer, "work a good deal harder than these three accomplished bull fighters, and yet they do not earn by any means as much money."