

Launching of the Monitor Wyoming

On September 8, within ten minutes of the time scheduled for that event, to the music of mighty cheers from thousands of throats, accompanied by the earth-shaking noise of hundreds of steam whistles, bearing on its brow the signature of Frances Helen Warren and at its mast-head the stars and stripes, the new United States monitor Wyoming slid down the ways of its cradle at the Union Iron works at San Francisco and sat gracefully on the salt water which is to be its permanent home. On the platform which had been built about the bow of the Wyoming to accommodate the christening party were Governor Richards of Wyoming and the members of his staff and their wives and friends. Among these were Adjutant General Frank A. Stizer, Inspector General and Mrs. A. P. Hanson, Major Thomas Wilhelm, Captain and Mrs. Pitt Covert and Captain Patrick Sullivan. During the ceremony Miss Warren, who is the daughter of United States Senator Warren of Wyoming, was ably assisted and morally supported by her bosom friend and college mate, Miss Grace Meinhardt, a beautiful young society girl of Denver.

The scene was an impressive one. Shortly after 11 o'clock Miss Bartlett, daughter of I. S. Bartlett of Wyoming, pressed an electric button, the miniature guillotine on the table before her severed the rope that held the ship and as the great mass of steel began to move toward the sea Miss Warren broke a bottle of California champagne over the bow of the vessel, saying: "I christen thee Wyoming." The band of the battleship Iowa, standing close alongside,

powerful ally of her father in his public life. Though but a miss in her teens she has made an enviable record in her studies in Washington and other eastern cities and has won much distinction in her home city as a reader and entertainer. The day of the christening her abundant chestnut colored hair was crowned by a becoming toque of black tulle, and she wore a walking frock of blue serge over a white silk blouse. From San Francisco Miss Warren went to Wellesley, where she will enter her sophomore year in college.

The coast defense monitor Wyoming is one of four harbor defense monitors authorized by congress in April, 1898. The others are now building by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company of Newport News, Va., the Bath Iron Works of Bath, Me., and Lewis Nixon of Elizabethport, N. J. Their cost ranges from \$825,000 to \$875,000 apiece, exclusive of armament, which will average about \$350,000 for each outfit. The Wyoming is 225 feet long on the water line and fifty feet broad and it draws not quite fifteen feet of water. Its displacement is 3,200 tons, and it is required to show a speed of twelve knots. It will carry two twelve-inch B. L. R. guns, four four-inch rapid-fire guns, three six-pounders and four one-pounders. Its armor above the water line and two and a half feet below is from five to eleven inches thick and the turret and barbette are protected by eleven-inch plates of steel, which have been treated by the Krupp instead of by the Harvey process.

A noteworthy feature of all these new vessels is that their twelve-inch and four-



THE WYOMING LAUNCHING PARTY—MISS FRANCES HELEN WARREN SITTING IN THE CENTER.

water-tight compartment. The coal capacity is about 200 tons, loosely stowed—enough for a considerable radius of action along the coast line. Comfortable quarters are provided for the captain, six other officers and a crew of about 130 persons.

Can Serve Double Purpose.

As is well known, naval authorities now agree that the monitor type of war vessel is useful only for coast defense in comparatively smooth water, and it is for that purpose alone that the Wyoming is intended. But it, like the others, will doubtless be found to be very valuable for the training of naval militia for it and the batteries will cover all the instruction needed, from a battleship down to a torpedo boat, save in that of torpedo duty only; while in other directions they will meet the whole scope of a practical education in naval warfare.

If the new monitor gives as good an account of itself as the first Wyoming it will satisfy the people of that state. The original Wyoming was a sister ship of the celebrated Kearsarge and was stationed during the civil war in Japanese waters, where it fought one of the greatest battles in the history of the American navy. This fight was an incident of the civil war in Japan in 1863. In trying to protect American interests the Wyoming drew fire from the Japanese and gave battle to a plancier, a brig, a barge and seven shore batteries—forty-eight guns to six. It won a complete victory from the enemy. The incident amazing though it was was swallowed up in the excitement of the American civil war and has never received the attention it really deserves.

Stories About Notables

A friend and admirer of Senator Spooner of Wisconsin, who has known the senator from boyhood, is authority for the following story:

Some years ago, when taking part in a symposium in the northern part of the state, Senator Spooner was making an impassioned appeal to his audience, in the midst of which the master of ceremonies touched him on the shoulder and, pointing to the clock, indicated that his time had expired. Quick as a flash a woman rose from her seat and mounting a chair in front of the clock threw her shawl over its face, amid the laughter and cheers of the audience and to the dismay of the master of ceremonies. It is doubtful if Senator Spooner ever received a prettier compliment.

Adelina Patti knows her own value as a public singer and it is not of record that

she ever failed to exact full payment according to contract. Some Chicagoans will recollect the story of how she waited on the stage of a local theater one evening, refusing to have her slippers put on by the maid until her manager brought her the amount stipulated for each performance. This rule of having her fee before she sings is one which she will not break for any one. On one occasion, while singing in an eastern city, her manager came and protested against the figure, saying the receipts did not warrant him in paying it. The little Italian woman quietly refused to appear until the amount was turned over.

"But," protested the manager, "that means a greater annual salary than is paid to the president of the United States." "Perhaps it is," said Mme. Patti, "but then you can get the president of the United States to sing for you."

It is rare that any utterance of a speaker of the house, while actually occupying the chair, is flavored with humor or spiced with wit, says the Washington Post. Mr. Reed indulged his penchant in that regard very gingerly while presiding, though occasionally he could not resist the temptation. The same is true of Speaker Henderson. In the closing days of the last session of congress the house was unusually obstreperous and General Henderson pounded the desk with his gavel until his right arm must have been sore for a week after final adjournment. When the house was in a most uproarious mood, Hon. Page Morris of Duluth began to speak in a very low tone. Hon. John J. Lentz of Ohio arose to a question of order, stating that he couldn't hear what Morris was saying. That point had been made so often that day that General Henderson's patience was threadbare. He gave his desk a thundering whack and, looking at Lentz, said: "I can give you order," then looking at Morris roared, "but I can't give you lungs!" That sally put everybody in a fine humor and order was restored for the space of about half a minute.

William Allen was known as the "iron governor" of Ohio, not because he had been an iron king or anything like that, but because he had not the slightest sympathy in the world for a criminal, and whenever an application was made to him to pardon an erring one he was as "iron" and could not be moved, so he was called the "iron governor."

One Thanksgiving eve he was applied to for executive clemency by the wife of a

notorious horse thief, and one who was serving a third term at that. He sat at his desk, his back turned to the tearful pleader, not even condescending to look at her. She had brought with her a 5-year-old girl, who had been quietly watching. Suddenly the child went to him, and, pulling his coattail, said:

"You mean old thing, I want my papa!" And the "iron governor" snatched her up, kissed her smack in the mouth, and said, "And you shall have him."

True to his word, later that day the wife and child came away from the prison with the pardoned husband and father.

H. Percy Rolfe, a prominent New York traveling man, has just returned to his home from an outing in the Moosehead lake region of Maine. His camp was only a stone's throw from that of United States Senator W. P. Frye, acting vice president of the United States. He relates that one morning recently he was up early and overheard an animated discussion between his own guide and him of the next camp as to the proper manner in which to address Senator Frye. They finally agreed to let the senator settle it himself.

Rolfe's guide was spokesman. He explained the controversy, ending by saying that the guides were all anxious to preserve the proprieties, but were uncertain as to whether their most distinguished trout fisherman should be addressed as "Senator," "Senator Frye," "vice president" or only plain "mister."

"Well," was the reply of the present heir apparent to the presidency, "in Washington I suppose my acquaintances and friends would address me with 'Good morning, senator,' or 'Good evening, Senator Frye,' some of them might say 'Mr. Frye,' my intimates would say 'Hello, Frye.' Any one of them is proper enough and sufficiently respectful. There is no settled custom about it. But up here in the woods—why, hang it! Who cares? Everything goes. Call me 'Bill' or 'old man,' 'Dennis,' 'mud' or any old thing. You can't offend my dignity, boys, because in a fishing camp I haven't got any. This way—you haven't had your eyes opened this morning, have you?"

Told About Preachers

The modern pastor quailed not when the accusation of heresy was brought against him, reports the Detroit Journal.

He would not listen to our suggestion that he resign.

"Why should I fear to face a trial?" he exclaimed. "I am confident that they cannot possibly acquit me!"

Heaven, he made no doubt, would sustain him in this hour.

The American soldiers in the Philippines see some strange sights. Lately a crowd of them attended a church service in their honor. There was much praying and singing. The image of an old saint drew their attention. Above the image was the picture of an eagle. On the banner which streamed from the eagle's bill was the following legend: "The Old Reliable Condensed Milk." The padre explained that he thought it was an American motto.

Seldom has there been a man more fertile in suggestion than Mr. Moody, but it was always his desire to find out the ideas of other men. The Advance recalls how upon one occasion, at a meeting of a board of Sunday school managers, one of the members made a very novel proposal.

Turning quickly to a very successful superintendent who happened to be present, Mr. Moody asked:

"What do you think about that?"

"I think it a most excellent idea, Mr. Moody, and I may say that we have been aiming to do that very thing for two years," replied the superintendent.

"Is that so?" asked Mr. Moody. "Then don't you think it is about time you fired?"



THE MONITOR WYOMING JUST AS IT TOUCHED THE WATER.

struck up "The Star Spangled Banner," all the steam whistles of the Union Iron works sounded as loud as they possibly could, hundreds of steamers crowding the water front blew their sirens, the thousands of people, with whom all the solid ground and floating wood and steel and iron were black, began to cheer and the latest addition to the coast defenders of the nation glided down the well-greased way.

Guillotine Ingenious Contrivance.

The electric guillotine used to sever the rope was an interesting and ingenious contrivance. It was a copy of the machine still used in France for the execution of criminals, but it was only about three feet high. A sharp knife was suspended from the top of the tower. At the bottom was a small square of soft wood painted black, which covered a few inches of rope, the hidden ends of which were attached to the only obstruction in the pathway of the Wyoming to the sea. When Miss Bartlett pressed the electric button the knife was released and fell, cut through the block of wood and severed the rope. The obstruction which had kept the ship from sliding instantly gave way and there was nothing between the Wyoming and the sea but a few yards of grease.

It was almost simultaneously with these events that Miss Warren seized the bottle of champagne, a native wine almost as effervescent as her own spirits on this exciting occasion, which will be the chief topic of conversation at Wellesley college for weeks to come, and with a pretty enthusiasm, almost threw it against the vessel named after her native state. It burst with an explosive noise that was plainly audible above the music and the cheers, spattered with its foam all those standing near by and left its head, attached to a long streamer of tri-colored ribbon, in the young woman's hand. In the accompanying picture, taken specially for The Bee, Miss Warren is sitting in the center of the Wyoming christening party, still holding these trophies of the day, with the piece of rope the guillotine had severed and the California wild flowers that Henry T. Scott, as master of ceremonies, had provided for her adornment.

Popularity of Miss Warren.

The selection of Miss Warren to christen the Wyoming was popular in Cheyenne and the rest of the state. She is a typical western girl, with all the breeziness of the Wyoming plains. Charming, tactful and possessing rare original mental gifts and fine buoyancy of disposition, she is certain to make quite a leader in society and a



CORN PALACE BUILDING AT MITCHELL, S. D.—OPENS SEPTEMBER 26.