

THE SUBMARINE FIGHTER.

INTEREST TAKEN IN THE HOLLAND AT NEWPORT—NO LIQUOR ABOARD OF HER.

The submarine torpedo boat Holland, lately transferred to the United States Navy by her builders, was the centre of attraction to the Army and Navy officers who visited Newport last week to witness the naval manoeuvres. Although the conditions were such that the Holland did not have an opportunity of showing her ability as an underwater naval weapon, she did prove herself able to run a considerable distance to sea, to keep out of the way of swiftly moving torpedo boats and to get alongside a battleship without being seen, even though running only partially submerged.

The Holland is now attached to the Government Torpedo Station at Goat Island, Newport Harbor, and will probably remain there during the winter. An ordinary torpedo boat slip, between the torpedo boats Porter and Dahlgren, has been assigned her, and there the visiting officers found her. She looked much like a sleeping turtle with a wart on her back, as she lay in her dock with nine-tenths of her peculiarly shaped hull under water. The wart was the diminutive conning tower, from which the boat may be steered and made to dive. A wicked looking torpedo tube could be seen in dim outline under the water, and at the stern there was slight evidence of a propeller.

Most of the visiting officers did not like the Holland. They realize her terrible efficiency, but it rather goes against the Navy and Army grain to think about fighting unseen foes.

"I'd as soon go back to fighting Indians in the old days of the scalping knife as to fight against her," was the way one Army officer expressed it.

"She may be all right," said a naval officer, "but a fighting man cannot admire a thing that strikes one in the back and gives you no run for your life or chance of getting revenge. She will never be a hero ship like the Olympia. No; not even if she had sunk a whole Spanish fleet."

The men who are serving on the Holland feel differently about her. They are in love with her. All of her crew, from Lieutenant H. H. Caldwell down to the single oiler were picked from volunteers. It was nervous work at first, but they were broken in gradually, and the Submarine Boat Building Company's men were dropped off one by one. Now the naval men do not give a second thought to taking the deepest kind of dives and long open sea runs.

The temperance women of the country will be glad to learn that there is one boat in the Navy on which liquor of any kind, even "Navy sherry," is unknown. This boat is the Holland, and, what is more, none of her officers or crew think of taking a drink on days when she is to make a run. Some of them have given it up altogether.

"Come and have a drink," said one of Gunner Hill's friends the other day.

"I've quit drinking, thank you," he replied. "A man that goes down in the Holland has no business to touch a drop."

"I'd have been in her myself," said another gunner, "if it hadn't been for my whiskey drinking."

The men on the Holland say that the fleet ran away from them on Tuesday night because they were afraid to give the boat a chance to show her ability. The officers of the battleships are not very strong in their denials of the charge. They realize that the United States has no exclusive rights to the Holland, and that boats of her type will be built for every country desiring them. Mexico will be the first to follow the example of the United States, according to torpedo station rumor.

There will be several variations of the Holland type in the water before long if her builders can carry out their plans. A much smaller boat for lake service is to be built. The idea is to keep the boat on a flatcar and haul it to any of our lake ports should the occasion demand. Another variety will be built, which can be hoisted aboard a battleship and carried with a fleet.

BILLIARD BALLS AND ELEPHANT TUSKS.

From The London Express.

The consular report on the trade of Zanzibar caused some excitement in billiard circles yesterday.

As stated in yesterday's "Express," it told of a record pair of elephant tusks ten and one-half feet long, and players spent the greater part of the day trying to calculate how many billiard balls could be made out of them, and what the balls would be worth.

The problem made the calculators tired, and, as no two agreed, the subject was placed before Mr. Lauriston Fraser, of Fraser Brothers, for his opinion.

This gentleman is probably the best authority in the world on billiard balls. He has been in the trade for twenty-five years, and among ball turners occupies a similar position to that of John Roberts among billiard players.

He shook his head when asked the question and replied: "The tusks are too big to be used in our trade."

"We require tusks from four to five feet long, and out of these we get any number up to nine balls."

"No ivory is worth more than £1 a pound, and the £1,000 given for the Zanzibar pair is simply a fancy price, paid because of their record size."

"When rough ivory is transformed into billiard balls its value is increased by about one-third, and, in addition, there is the price paid for the refuse, which is made into rings, paper knives, etc."

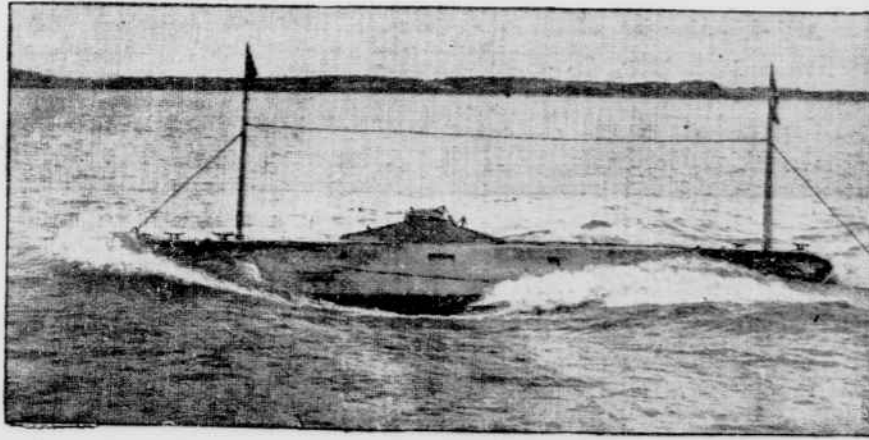
"If these big tusks were used in our trade and £1,000 was their fair value, they would bring us

as balls probably £1,400, besides leaving plenty of pieces to work out into mirrors and small fancy articles."

REVIVAL OF DIAMOND CUTTING.

MARKET AGAIN RESUMES A NORMAL CONDITION AFTER THE BOER WAR.

There is a marked revival in the diamond cutting industry in this country, as a result of the driving of the hostile Boers from the neighborhood of the mines at Kimberley, South Africa. Work at the De Beers mines has been resumed, and regular shipments of rough diamonds are again being received in London. American buyers who have recently returned from the European markets report that the conditions there are again about normal, and that rough is com-



THE SUBMARINE BOAT HOLLAND IN ACTION. Going at full speed on the surface.

ing from South Africa in about the same quantities as before the war.

There was a great scarcity of rough on this side of the ocean when the hostilities in South Africa began, and only a few American gem merchants were able to secure enough to keep their cutters employed during the long period of interrupted intercourse with the mines. Some of the shops in Brooklyn and a few of those in Manhattan were inactive from last December until a short time ago, and some are even now running with a diminished force of cutters. During the inactivity here many of the cutters who within the last ten years had come from Holland to pursue their occupations in the United States returned to their native land, believing that the Amsterdam and Antwerp diamond merchants had foreseen the war and laid in sufficient supplies of rough to keep the factories there in operation. They were disappointed, however, and most of them are again in New-York.

Nearly the entire diamond supply of the world is now derived from the South African mines, and all the productive mines in that region are controlled by a monopoly known as the De Beers Syndicate. Another monopoly, in which many of the De Beers shareholders are said to

GOSSIP OF THE CAPITAL.

COMPLETION OF THE NATIONAL CATHEDRAL SCHOOL.

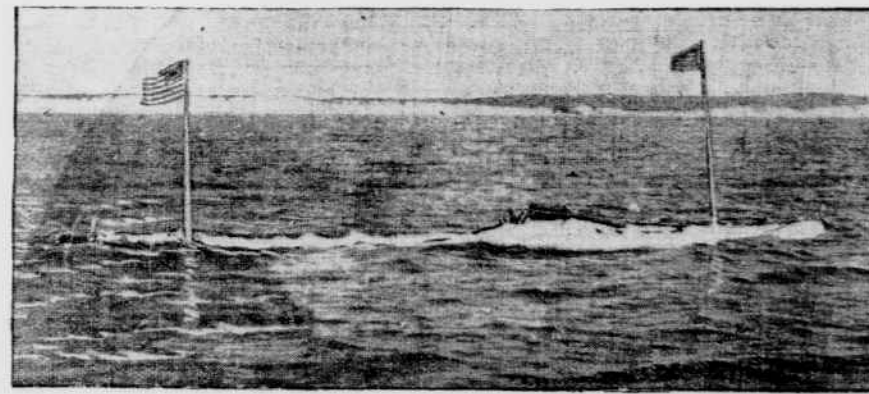
FACTS ABOUT PORTO RICO—SENATOR MORRILL'S INTEREST IN THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES.

Washington, Sept. 29.—The National Cathedral School, the cornerstone of which was laid on Ascension Day, 1899, is the first structure to be finished in the Cathedral close, an estate of thirty-one acres on Mount St. Alban, which lies on the old Tenallytown Pike, at its intersection with Woodley Lane, bought some two years ago by the Diocese of Washington, where one

day an Episcopal settlement of buildings, devoted to educational and religious uses, will cluster around the projected Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul.

The Cathedral School, the gift of Mrs. Hearst, and popularly known as the Hearst School, is situated in a beautiful grove of oak trees not far distant from the former home of Mr. Cleveland, Oak View, and Beauvoir, the estate Admiral Dewey has leased. The building is Italian Renaissance in style, and built of Indiana limestone. It is thoroughly fireproof, the beams and girders of steel, the staircases of iron and marble and the wainscoting of tile and marble. There are a hundred and sixty rooms in the great house, and it will accommodate one hundred boarders and three hundred day scholars.

The architect of the school is Robert W. Gibson, president of the Architectural League of New-York, and nothing has been left undone to make it a model in its way. A covered playroom has been provided for rainy days; an art studio, lighted by skylights and admirably arranged, occupies the top story, and a dark room for developing photographs, as photography will be taught in the gymnasium, has been installed. The library, reading room and music rooms have been carefully designed, and the roof has been



THE HOLLAND PARTLY SUBMERGED. Ready to dive.

be interested, purchases the entire output of the mines, and arbitrarily fixes the prices at which rough diamonds shall be sold, contracting with the De Beers Syndicate for its product a year in advance. This syndicate had gradually advanced prices to a high figure before the beginning of the Boer war, and they were then higher than ever. There had long been a shortage of some grades, and this still continues, but the prices are generally about the same as before the mines were invested by the Boer forces.

Leopold Stern, of Stern Brothers & Co., of No. 68 Nassau-st., who had just returned from Europe, yesterday informed a Tribune reporter that the supply of rough and the prices of diamonds were more nearly normal at the time of his departure from London than at any time since the trouble between Oom Paul and the British reached an acute stage. "You can truthfully say," said Mr. Stern, "that the condition of the market is now so nearly normal that there is no cause for complaint on the part either of buyers or sellers."

SHE GRASPED IT.

From The Chicago Post. She was trying her best to grasp the political situation, but there were many things that bothered her.

"What is a trust?" she asked at last. "It is any business combination made by members of the opposite political party," he replied. Then of course it was all clear to her.

converted into a garden for the use of students, from which a fine view of the surrounding country can be secured. The cornerstone of the building bears the inscription "For Christ and His Children" and "That Our Daughters May Be as the Polished Corners of the Temple."

Dr. Jacob H. Hollander, formerly a member of the Johns Hopkins faculty, and now treasurer of the island of Porto Rico, who was in town early in the week, regrets the sensational reports which are so widely spread and believed in this country regarding the island of which he is an official.

"Visitors to Porto Rico," says Dr. Hollander, "go home and say they saw poverty. Of course they did. What did they expect to see? Did they hope to find people raised in the twinkling of an eye from want and degradation to their own elevation? Did they expect to find wealth where poverty for generations had reigned? Did they believe that by some supernatural agency impoverished Porto Rico had been raised to the level of their own country? It seems that people who go to Porto Rico do expect such changes to have happened. They measure the island by the standards of the United States. They do not appreciate that we are wrestling with a people of the tropics, who have been accustomed to plant a banana tree, then to lie in its shade until the banana grows,

and pluck and eat the fruit with as little exercise as possible."

Of the Porto Rican tariff Dr. Hollander says: "I can imagine nothing more unequal for than the wave of emotionalism that swept the United States over the Porto Rican Tariff measure. The measure was a godsend to the people of the island, and the cry against it in the United States found no echo in Porto Rico. It has been the means of helping the natives to get upon their feet, so to speak, and has done all that those who advocated it in Congress claimed it would do. Had it not passed, one of two things would have been the inevitable result—a burdensome internal tax on the people or a subsidy from the United States. The first would have been too heavy to carry; the other alternative would have made the islanders wards of charity and would have further encouraged them in idleness. From practical demonstration of the operations of the act, I am more than convinced of the wisdom of the measure. As to the finances of the island, I would say that in the place of a deficiency we have now a surplus of about \$350,000, a most encouraging omen. My budget this year will net about \$2,000,000, realized as follows: Customs in Porto Rico, \$1,000,000; Porto Rican customs in the United States, \$500,000, and from the internal revenue of the island, \$500,000."

Dr. A. C. True, director of the Office of Experiment Stations, has written for the Agricultural Year Book a most interesting account of the organization of agricultural societies in this country. The first society of this character, according to Dr. True, was founded in Philadelphia, at that time the National capital, in 1785, and its membership comprised such men as George Washington, Benjamin Franklin and Timothy Pickering. The movement spread rapidly south and north along the fringe of Atlantic coast communities then constituting the United States.

In 1804 Dr. Thornton, the first United States Commissioner of Patents, proposed that agricultural fairs should be held in the city of Washington on market days, after the English fashion. The idea was eagerly taken up by the citizens and municipal authorities, and the first fair was held in October of that year. It was such a decided success that two others were held in the succeeding years, after which, however, they were discontinued.

Dr. True traces the growth of these societies down to the time when Congress took them under its protection, and then tells the story of their development under more favorable auspices. In the course of his paper Dr. True pays a tribute to the late Senator Morrill, who was known as the father of the agricultural colleges.

"It was fortunate," says Dr. True, "that at the very critical period for the movement during that year, the National leader who sought to crystallize the growing demand of the people for technical education into an act of Congress, endowing colleges for this purpose in every State of the Union, was a man of broad views and large practical sense, willing to draw his measure of comprehensive lines and leave future experience to work out successful results, even through many tribulations and great risk of fatal bungling. This man was Justin S. Morrill, of Vermont, who, having by his own efforts risen to success in mercantile and agricultural pursuits in the midst of a hardworking but intelligent and progressive community, had come to Congress in the prime of life, with an open mind toward every measure which promised to widen the opportunities and increase the welfare of the masses and had in it the promise of attaining practical results by businesslike methods."

Sixty-four colleges, it seems, under the provisions of the several laws on the subject, are in operation in the several States and Territories. Of these all except four maintain courses in agriculture. In fourteen States there are separate institutions for the white and colored students. All of the institutions are brought together to constitute a National system of higher education in the sciences and industries through the Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations, the Office of Experiment Stations at the Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of Education of the Department of the Interior.

The following story, told at one of the uptown clubs the other evening, so delighted an Englishman who was present that he copied it into his notebook for the delectation of his friends "at home." It is surely typical of the provincial district from whence it came, where etiquette requires that the father of a bride shall supply her with at least one set of false teeth with her trousseau, so that her husband may be saved the expense in the future.

A mountain farmer of New-Hampshire, whose wife had died from epilepsy, received a visit of condolence from a neighbor, an eminent physician, who had a summer home in the vicinity. After sympathizing with him on the death of his spouse, the doctor asked regarding the symptoms, concluding with the question:

"Did you ever notice, Mr. X., whether your wife ground her teeth in sleep?"

"No, no," responded the mountaineer; "I don't think she ever slept in 'em."

WELL TRAINED.

From The Indianapolis Journal.

"Flavilla, you ought to take more pains with your letters to Myrtilla."

"Nonsense, pa. If she can read her own writing she can read mine."