AMERICAN UNION.

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Shop in Blackiston Block, Main Street, Six Assistants. Swiftest Work.

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DENTON, MD.
Office at BarberShop on Main street where able assistants will do your barbering neatly and quickly. All business given prompt Attention.



To play whist successfully the attention must be closely centered on the game. The majority of hands are opened with a fourth best card from a long suit to show partner the possession of exactly three higher cards and to enable him to determine from the drop how many cards in all are held and what they are. It is much easier to learn how to read partner's hand than is ordinarily supposed.

There are two main systems of scientific whist play, known as the long suit and short suit systems, according to whether, in the majority of instances, the original leaders adopting the respective systems, open from a long suit or short suit, but it must be understood that the long-suiter sometimes opens from a short suit originally, and the short-suiter sometimes opens from a long suit originally. The main characteristic of the scientific long-suit school is the opening of a long suit in the hope that, when the trumps are exhausted, or are all in the hands of the leader and his partner, the long suit may be established and that extra tricks may be taken by the "long," or remaining small cards of the long suit. On the other hand, the main characteristic of the scientific short-suit school is the opening of a nine, ten, jack or queen, usually from the top of a short suit, with the intent that partner shall finesse deeply in the suit lead and not return it, and by this mode of play develop tenaces in each other's suits. With hands of more than ordinary strength the short-suit plays the long-suit game, and partner at once responds with trumps, but ordinarily the "strengtheners"—nines, tens, jacks and queens—are led originally. It is an error to suppose that scientific short-suiters lead short suit to get an early ruff. The short-suiter's effort is to give an extra trick-taking value to high cards in all the plain suits of each player.

Out of the Mouths of Babes.

One cold morning 4-year-old Fannie's mamma began washing her hands in cold water, but she drew back, exclaiming: "That water's too cold, mamma; please cook it some."

Little Edgar, aged 3, was very fond of lemon drops, and one day while he was out on the porch a sudden and violent hailstorm came up. "Oh! oh!" he exclaimed, with delight, "it's wainen tandy."

A 5-year-old city miss was visiting in the country for the first time, and she happened to notice the cattle enjoying their cud. "Say, grandpa!" she exclaimed, "does you have to buy gum for all them cows to chew?"

Little Mamie had heard her Sunday school teacher speak of backsliders, and one rainy Sunday morning, when her mother thought it best for her not to attend Sunday school, she said: "I've just got to go, for teacher says if we don't come every Sunday our backs will slide."

"You may spell 'smallpox,' Tommy," said the teacher to one of the juvenile class. Tommy made several attempts but failed. "Well," said the teacher, "what do you think a boy ought to get who fails on a simple work like 'smallpox?'" "He ought to get vaccinated," answered Tommy.

Little Johnny was saying his prayers at his mother's knee and she was helping him out with her suggestions. "Bless and take care of the little lambs of the flock," said mamma. Johnnie knew that he was included among the lambs and he reasoned that parents should not be forgotten. "Bless and take care of the little lambs of the flock," he repeated; then added: "And I guess you had better look after the old sheep, too."

The Cleveland Leader has discovered a new word. It says that "in Philadelphia people who have led fast lives and then reformed are called 'ginks.'" This statement seems to refute itself.

VOTING MADE HONEST.

Mr. Ross of Ohio Has a Straightforward Machine.

"It is too honest to be popular," was the rather caustic observation of a gentleman who was examining the good qualities of Mr. N. B. Ross' newly patented voting machine.

The inventor of the machine is the present representative of Putnam County, Ohio, in the House of Representatives. Mr. Ross is an old minister of the Gospel, and has had ample opportunity to see the necessity of some automatic and incorruptible voting machine that would register the vote of the people.

He started in about eight years ago to perfect a machine for that purpose, and has succeeded far beyond his original hopes or anticipations. If the Ross voting machines were used the result of any election would be made known within a few moments after the polls



ROSS VOTING MACHINE.

are closed, or as soon as the different sum totals of the precincts could be added together.

The machine is a box about three feet wide by three feet high. It is shaped on the top much like the keyboard of the ordinary typewriter, with keys similar to the key of the typewriter, in rows at stated distances apart. The surface is inclined. Over the top of the machine fits down close a sheet of platinum around the keys. Under this platinum is pasted between the rows of keys the various tickets to be voted. There is room for half a dozen different ones, and if there were more tickets placed in the field then more space might easily be provided.

EXERCISES FOR THE FINGERS.

Some Feats in Finger Gymnastics that Are Difficult to Perform.

For example, place both hands together in such a manner as to have the backs of the two middle fingers joined. Now try to spread out the thumbs and the other fingers from the tips. This will be found easy enough with the thumbs, the index and the little fingers, but try it with the ring fingers, and this kind of gymnastics becomes decidedly interesting. Exercise No. 2 is not so difficult, and some can do it after the first trial, but there are others who can never perform the apparently easy feat. This may also be said of the third exercise. Here the condition is not to permit the least bend in the two lower parts of the index finger. In exercise No. 4 it is imperative that the fingers remain stretched out straight. Try



CAN YOU PERFORM THESE FEATS?

some of these experiments when you have an idle ten minutes, and you will be surprised to find them not half so easy as they appear in the picture.

FREEDOM FOR CUBA.

Senator Thurston Urges Force If it Be Necessary.

NOW TIME FOR ACTION.

We Should Land An Army In Cuba, Send Our Fleet to Havana and Say To Spain That She Must Withdraw Her Soldiers and Leave the Cubans to Govern Themselves.

A despatch from Washington, D. C., says: A scene, dramatic in the intensity of its interest, was presented in the Senate Thursday during the delivery by Mr. Thurston, of Nebraska, of a speech on the Cuban situation.

Not since the inauguration of President McKinley have so many people been on the Senate side of the Capitol. The galleries were packed with people, many of whom arrived at the Capitol as early as 9.30 A. M., in order to obtain seats. Even the diplomatic gallery, which is rarely occupied, was filled, among those in it being Senor Mendonca, the Brazilian minister, and party, ex-Secretary of State John W. Foster and Mrs. Foster and many ladies and gentlemen from the various foreign legations.

Within a few minutes after the Senate convened every member who could be present was in his seat, and by the time Mr. Thurston had begun his speech dozens of members of the House were either standing or occupying chairs without the semicircle of seats.

Mr. Thurston spoke in part as follows:

"Mr. President, I am here by command of silent lips to speak once and for all upon the Cuban situation. I trust that no one has expected anything sensational from me. God forbid that the bitterness of a personal loss should induce me to color in the slightest degree the statement that I feel it my duty to make. I shall endeavor to be honest, conservative and just. I have no purpose to stir the public passion in any action not necessary and imperative to meet the duties and necessities of American responsibility, Christian humanity and national honor. I would shirk this task if I could, but I dare not. I cannot satisfy my conscience except by speaking, and speaking now."

Overstatement Impossible.

Mr. Thurston said he had gone to Cuba firmly believing that the condition of affairs on the island had been greatly exaggerated, and that he had directed his efforts in the first instance to the exposure of the supposed exaggerations. He had concluded, however, that an overstatement of the horrors of the situation was impossible. He was prepared, he stated, not only to adopt every word of the statement of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Proctor), but he was even convinced that Mr. Proctor had understated the facts.

Mr. Thurston then tersely submitted his observations and conclusions, as follows:

"After three years of warfare and the use of 225,000 Spanish troops, Spain has lost control of every foot of land not surrounded by an actual intrenchment and protected by a fortified picket line. She holds possession with her armies of the fortified seaboard towns because they are under the virtual protection of Spanish warships, with which the revolutionists cannot cope. The revolutionists are in absolute and almost peaceful possession of nearly one-third of the island, including the eastern provinces of Santiago de Cuba and Puerto Principe. In these provinces they have established a form of government and collect taxes, maintain armies and generally levy a tax or tribute upon the principal plantations in other provinces, and, as is commonly believed, upon the entire railway system of the island.

"In the four so-called Spanish provinces there is neither cultivation nor railway operation except under strong Spanish military protection, or by consent of the revolutionists in consideration of tribute paid.

The Inhuman Policy of Weyler.

"Under the inhuman policy of Weyler not less than 400,000 self-supporting, simply, peaceable, defenseless country people were driven from their homes in the agricultural portion of the Spanish provinces to the cities and imprisoned upon the barren waste outside the residence portions of the cities and within the lines of intrenchment established a little way beyond.

DOINGS OF CONGRESS.

The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs authorized a favorable report on the bill authorizing cities and towns of Indian Territory to secure land necessary for public improvements. The bill provides for condemnation proceedings.

Senator Stewart gave notice of an amendment he will offer to the naval appropriation bill, providing for the construction of eighteen coast defense monitors of type of Puritan, Monterey, and Terror, and appropriating $1,800,000 with which to begin the work.

A favorable report was made by the Senate Committee on Postoffices on Senator Allen's amendment to the postoffice appropriation bill, continuing the Western fast mail and prohibiting the transfer of the mail from one car to another at Chicago.

The Senate Committee on Commerce authorized a favorable report on Senator Frye's proposed amendment to the sundry civil appropriation bill, providing for the construction of five new revenue cutters, to be located as follows: One on the Oregon coast one on the Gulf of Mexico, one for the Charleston (S. C.) district, and one each for Boston and Philadelphia harbors.

KANSAS BANK ROBBED OF $5,000.

Burglars Blew Up the Safe and Held Citizens Captive in Bank.

The Bank of Nickerson, at Nickerson, Kan., was robbed. Five men did the job and it required four or five hours to blow up the safe. Citizens who were passing the building were held up and forced to go inside, where they were kept until the safe was blown open and the money secured. About $5,000 was secured. The robbers mounted horses and fled.

EIGHT KILLED.

Train Goes Through a Bridge With Terrible Loss of Life.

At 6 o'clock P. M. a special work train on the Pennsylvania Railway, composed of an engine, tool car and passenger coach which contained a large number of men, left Columbus, O., for the purpose of distributing the men along the various water courses on the line on account of the floods.

While crossing a trestle near Columbus it gave way precipitating the entire train into the raging torrent of the White River. Eight are reported dead or drowned.

SPANISH REPORT DELAYED.

Senor Moret Expects the American Decision to Be Unfavorable.

Senor Moret, the Minister for the Colonies, told the newspaper men, who waited on him, that the report of the Spanish court of inquiry would not be known as soon as had been expected. He said he believed the American report would not be as favorable as Spain desired.

Death of Dr. Hugh Hagan.

A telegram was received in Richmond announcing the death in Atlanta, Ga., after a week's illness, of Dr. Hugh Hagan, a native of Richmond, where he was educated and spent his early life.

THE NEWS.

R. M. Cary was sentenced to jail in Richmond, Va., on the charge of passing worthless checks.

Gottlieb Schneider, a Howard county man, killed another at Sheep Camp, in the Klondike, and narrowly escaped being lynched.

The heirs of the late J. Herman Bosler will present a handsome free library to the citizens of Carlisle, Pa., as a memorial.

Two men were killed and a number of others injured at the burning of a boarding house at Butte, Mont.

The French steamer Labrador, from Havana, on February 22, via Santander on February 27, has arrived at Colon, having on board the five commissioners sent to investigate the affairs of the new Panama Canal Company and to report upon the progress made upon the canal.

Everybody interested in seeing the latest developments in high-grade wheels should send a postal to the John P. Lovell Company, Boston, Mass., for their new catalogue. It contains valuable information.

While returning home from church at Wellsville, Ohio, Oliver Reed asked Sarah Walter to marry him, and upon her refusal he drew a revolver and shot her through the heart. He then blew out his brains. An examination of papers found on his body shows that the deed was premeditated.

Dr. Gatling has received word that General Miles will be in Cleveland to witness the last process before boring and rifling in the big steel coast defense rifle cast in one piece. The members of the Army Ordnance Board have been notified, and some of them undoubtedly will be present.

Near Richmond, Va., a demented man killed his brother's wife and wounded several other persons with a shotgun.

The steamer Strabo put into New York from South America and reported that on the trip the ship's cook had died of yellow fever and the captain had recovered from a severe attack.

Robbers in Oklahoma held up a revival service and took up a collection. They then visited nearly all the stores in town.

Joseph Leiter has arranged for shipment to the seaboard of 1,500,000 bushels of wheat. Most of it, it is said, will go to Liverpool.

The funeral of Mrs. Thurston, wife of Senator Thurston, of Nebraska, took place from their residence in Omaha.

United States revenue agents raided an illicit still in cellars connected by subterranean passages under Harmonia Hotel, in Ludlow street, New York.

George Bryan, twelve years old, of Arlington, N. J., was blinded for life by being burned by molten lead which he intended to make into cannon balls to use against Spain.

Charles Bell, of No. 264 Eighth avenue, shot and killed himself in a cemetery in Long Island City on the grave of his daughter, who died seventeen years ago.

United States authorities in Dyea, Alaska, fear that the encroachments of Canadians on disputed territory will result in losses to this country, and the belief is expressed that some action by our government should be taken.

The steamer Strabe arrived at New York with the captain down with yellow fever, the cook having died during the voyage.

The ninth week of the millworkers' strike, in New England, opened with the strikers willing to return to work under a reduction of five per cent. instead of ten, and the manufacturers declaring that it is impossible for them to accept the compromise.

Rev. Dr. Dewitt Benham announced to his congregation in the Pittsburg Tabernacle that he has accepted the call to the Central Presbyterian Church of Baltimore.

Work on the buildings for the Trans-Mississippi Exposition at Omaha, is progressing rapidly.

James Sutty, a newsboy, was killed by an electric car in Norfolk, Va.

Judge James Goggin, of the Chicago Superior Court, who has made himself famous for his decisions that criticise police methods, is dangerously ill at his home in the Windy City. Judge Goggin is suffering from enlargement of the liver, and the doctors say he will not recover.

Miss Elizabeth Bosworth, aged 66 years, committed suicide at New Britain, Conn., by igniting a chicken house in which she had locked herself. Miss Bosworth, it is said, had quarreled with her brother and threatened to kill herself.

Edward Barrett, of South Norwalk, Conn., has resigned the presidency of the United Hatters of North America, an office which he has held since 1892, when the Makers' and Finishers' unions were amalgamated. By the constitution of the order Vice-President John A. Moffatt, of Orange, N. J., becomes president.

The British ship General Roberts, Captain Fearon, at Dunkirk from Chittagong, reports that when south of Mauritius on December 25 she encountered a cyclone, during which one of the crew was lost overboard and some sails and two boats were carried away.

The new Grand Opera House at St. Thomas, Ontario, was burned. It was owned by Rothwell, of Detroit.

General Bjornstierna, the former Swedish Minister of War, is dead. Karl Tavastierna, the poet, is also dead.

Colonel Dyer, a member of the Armstrong-Whitworth (London) firm is dead. Colonel Dyer managed the affairs of the employers in the recent lockout of the engineers' trades.

Gen. George W. Rains died at Newburg, N. Y., aged 83 years. He was a native of South Carolina, and was graduated from West Point Military Academy in 1841. He served in the Mexican War, and was twice brevetted for gallantry. During the Civil War he served in the Confederate Army. In 1867 he was professor of the University of Georgia.

ABOUT NOTED PEOPLE.

Mrs. Zerlsah Gould Mitchell, the last Indian princess in Massachusetts, has just died at North Abington. She was a lineal descendant of Massasoit.

Thomas G. Alvord, superintendent of art of the library of Congress, is having a collection of engravings, prints and photographs of all the Presidents of the United States placed in one of the galleries of the west wing of the building.

Campos Salles, the new President of Brazil, is an eminent lawyer, 50 years old, and is a native of Brazil.

Verdi, the Italian composer, charges £1 for an autograph or a signed photograph; when the request comes from aweathy admirer he asks double that sum. He does not keep the money, but distributes it among the poor.

Warsaw's proposed celebration of the 100th birthday of Adam Mickiewiez, the great Polish poet, has been prohibited by the police.

Said Frances E. Willard: "Poor, grand George Eliot, who sees no light beyond the sepulchre; who thinks we are snuffed out like candles! Dear me, it isn't even aesthetic."

What will probably be effectual discouragement to bicycle thieves in Suffolk county, New York, has been given by a judge who has just sentenced William Scudlon to 10 years' penal servitude at hard labor for stealing a wheel. Another charge of the same nature is outstanding against the convict.

According to the Washington Post, John Murray Mitchell, of New York, is the only member of Congress who insists upon having his name printed in full on all public papers to which it must be attached.

President McKinley, it is said, has consented to deliver an address in Chicago on the occasion of the laying of the cornerstone of the new Postoffice Building in that city.

COURT OF INQUIRY.

Wreck of the Maine Was By Outside Explosion.

UNABLE TO FIX BLAME.

A Rumor That the Sagasta Cabinet May Evolve a "Startling Proposition" For Peace—The United States Continues to Hurry Work On Its Extraordinary Measures of Offense and Defense.

A special despatch from Washington, D. C., says:—Two sessions of the cabinet was held Friday at which the report of the United States court of inquiry on the Maine disaster was considered in detail. The court finds that the destruction of the Maine was caused by an outside explosion, but is unable to fix the responsibility for the explosion. The court does not express an opinion as to the character of the explosion, but the testimony indicates that it was probably due to a floating submarine mine. The conclusions of the court were cabled to Minister Woodford at Madrid, and he was instructed to notify the Spanish government.

The government of Spain has received the report of its court of inquiry. This report says: "It is scientifically and practically demonstrated that the explosion was internal."

A special cablegram from Madrid states that the Sagasta cabinet will hold a council at which a "startling proposition" looking to peace may be decided upon.

An outbreak at Havana is feared upon receipt of the news of the official finding by the United States court of inquiry.

The United States government has bought a first-class torpedo boat built at Schichau for Germany.

Commodore Winfield Scott Schley took command of the flying squadron at Hampton Roads. The battleship Texas, which is assigned to this squadron, has been ordered to the Brooklyn navy yard, where she will be put in fighting trim.

Every available vessel in the revenue cutter service will be fitted out at the Norfolk navy yard and sent to Key West to reinforce the squadron commanded by Captain Sampson.

Most of the warships of the United States are now either in American waters or on their way home. Practically every foreign station has been stripped of vessels with the exception of the Asiatic station. The fleet in home waters will soon number 33 warships, including 10 torpedo boats and 23 battleships, monitors, cruisers and gunboats.

Secretary of War Alger has made an additional allottment to the ordnance bureau to be used in the construction of new guns and gun carriages. The ordnance bureau has arranged to secure 46 rapid-fire guns abroad. Thirty thousand tents have been ordered, partly for the use of the State troops if the emergency arises.

James P. Eustis, former ambassador to France, said in an interview in New York that no European power would be likely to take an active part against the United States in the event of a war with Spain.

OMAHA'S EXPOSITION.

Plans for State Buildings for the Trans-Mississippi Celebration.

Plans for State buildings at the Trans-Mississippi Exposition are coming in rapidly. The department of publicity has just received the architects' drawings for the Minnesota, Montana, Arkansas, Denver and Missouri buildings.

The Illinois building is nearly completed, with the exception of an additional wing made necessary for the accommodation of the fine art exhibit which Illinois will bring to the exposition.

The Wiscoasin building is well under way, and is one of the most complete State buildings on the grounds. The Nebraska building is practically completed. Plans for the Colorado buildings have been accepted an the contract will be let in a day or two.

Plans for the Georgia Pine Palace have been submitted. It will be constructed wholly of pine donated by the people of Georgia. It is a handsome structure. The Minnesota building will be constructed on similar lines, of unhewn Minnesota logs.

Plans for the Oregon building are now being drawn and will be submitted next week. Members of State commissions of other States send assurances that plans for their State buildings will be forthcoming within a short time. It is highly probable that the States of New York and New Jersey will construct handsome buildings.

Thirty-five States have to date decided to participate in the exposition. In all thirty commissions have been appointed and reports from agents in the field are to the effect that at least five more States will be organized within the next ten days. The winter weather having been favorable, construction work is fast advancing and is progressing in the main court and the midway with great rapidity.

The government building, 500 feet in length, the pinnacle of whose dome is nearly 200 feet high, is nearly done.

The management has found it necessary to build several annexes to accommodate the extraordinary demand for exhibit space.

A TORPEDO BOAT BOUGHT.

United States Navy Secures One That Was Built for Germany.

Lieutenant-Commander Colwell, the United States naval attache at London, has bought for the United States government, through an American firm, a first-class torpedo boat, built at Schlichau for Germany. She is ready to sail.

The Washington Navy Department has been informed by a cablegram from Lieutenant Colwell that agents of this government have purchased a Chichau torpedo boat which has been constructed for the German government. She is a twenty-three knot vessel and about 150 feet long. While of the same general type as the Rodgers and Foote, of the United States Navy, she is a trifle larger.

New Locomotives.

The Baldwin Locomotive Works of Philadelphia, Pa., have recently delivered to the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company the last of the large orders of locomotives placed last fall. This delivery included twenty heavy engines which are now being broken in for service between Cumberland and Baltimore. These locomotives are of the same style that the Motive Power Department adopted as the standard for the First and Second divisions. They are of the Consolidated type with 21x26 cylinders, and the average load they will pull approximates 1,800 tons.

Warships' Names.

Senator Allen gave notice of an amendment he will offer to the naval appropriation bill providing that hereafter all first-class United States battleships, cruisers and monitors shall be named for the States, Territories and districts of the United States, and shall not be named for any city, place or person until the names of the States shall be exhausted.

Congressman Connell's Loss.

The old Meadowbrook breaker of the Connell Coal Company, Scranton, Pa., of which Congressman Connell is the head, was totally destroyed by fire, presumably of incendiary origin. Loss, $25,000; insurance, $19,000.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

The fighting on the northwest frontier of India has ended, the rebels having given the hostages demanded.

Floods threaten serious damage in Montreal, the St. Lawrence River having reached the record point, and many manufacturing establishments being flooded.

Theodore Lerner, of Berlin, will head an expedition to start next May, in search of explorer Andree.

The French navy is being prepared for mobilization, to support, it is reported, Russia's demands in the far East.

The price paid for the two Brazilian warships was $2,500,000 for both.

Riots among striking miners at Somorrostro, Spain, resulted in three of the crowd being killed by a volley fired by the police.

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, in the House of Commons said the proposed reciprocity arrangements between the West Indies and the United States would amount to a bounty upon sugar exported from the West India Islands.

John Shore, a famous detective, who was for many years the head of the criminal investigation department of the new Scotland Yards, died in London.

Woolf Joel, trustee of the estate of the late Barney Barnato, the South African millionaire, was shot and killed at Johannesburg by a man named Feldthein, to whom he had refused money.

It is stated that the dispute between Chili and Peru as to the provinces of Tecna and Arica is almost certain to be settled soon.

Many persons have been rendered homeless and much damage has been done by the overflow of the Grand and Thames rivers, Ontario.

A Siamese expedition has defeated the Cambodian rebels in the province of Battambang.

The work of the United States Commission on the Nicaragua Canal is about completed.

The Marquis of Salisbury, Prime Minister of England, who has been suffering from influenza, will go to the South of France to recuperate. It is reported that he will soon resign the Foreign Secretaryship.

At the annual meeting of the Chambers of Commerce, of London, it was declared that foreign aggression in China menaces England's trade.

A clash between a few Frenchmen and Germans occurred at Nancy, when a German officer and a subordinate crossed the frontier. No one was hurt, but the matter will be investigated.

WAR SUPPLIES FROM ENGLAND.

The New Orleans Will Bring Over a Cargo of Powder and Shells.

A cable despatch from London, Eng. says:—The return of the United States Ambassador Col. John Hay, to London from Egypt has brought to the embassy a swarm of war munition men and brokers who have options upon warships. Some of them renewed efforts to sell to the United States obsolete craft at preposterous prices. Two brokers offered one ship at prices $750,000 apart.

New contracts for ammunition and guns will probably be made on the return of Commander Willard H. Brownson from Paris, when there will be a conference of the naval authorities to discuss the question of buying more ships, upon which occasion Commander Brownson will report on the condition of the ships building in France which might be purchased by the United States.

An official said: "The United States will not be frightened into paying exorbitant prices or into buying second-rate ships and guns at any price." This disposition proves disappointing to war material firms, some of which have tried to profit by the government's needs to extort fictitious prices.

The first instalment of the Vickers-Maxim Company's contract for guns, amounting to $385,000, including many half-inch quick-firers, was delivered Tuesday.

The United States cruiser New Orleans will take a heavy cargo of powder, shells, and guns. She will descend the river and load several tons of brown powder. The consignment is so large that the authorities will not permit it to be loaded at Gravesend. Therefore the powder will be delivered from an isolated dock, situated at some distance from any buildings.

TORPEDO-BOAT DESTROYERS.

Government Arranging With a New Jersey Shipyard To Build Ten.

Lewis Nixon, of New York, proprietor of the Crescent shipyards, at Elizabeth, N. J., is to receive an order from the government, it was reported, for ten or twelve first-class torpedo-boat destroyers.

Mr. Nixon went to Washington recently, and, with several naval officers, discussed plans for the most efficient class of torpedo-boat destroyers. He returned to Elizabethport, and for an hour was in consultation with the various heads of departments in his yards about the ability of the plant to start to turn out the boats on short notice.

It was found that the first boat could be finished in ninety days and work on the others pushed along at the same time, so that there would be only about two weeks' wait for each of the others.

He had a bid in for three thirty-knot torpedo boat destroyers. The government, according to the report, is anxious to increase the order, and he is ready to fulfill it. It is said that plans are now being prepared.

FIELD OF LABOR.

Japan buys Southern iron.
England has 16,000 iron miners.
New York has 100,000 idle men.
England has 687,000 coal miners.
Seals are branded by electricity.
North Carolina has 122 tanneries.
Detroit has a Polish labor alliance.
A China cotton mill has 2,000 hands.
Chicago carpenters want $3.25 a day.
Baltimore retail merchants organized.
Detroit hasn't an idle union machinist.
Only women carpet weavers in Prussia.
Germany is first in beet sugar production.
A machine makes 2,500,000 matches daily.
Japan is building a $10,000,000 steel plant.
A ten-hour day law for street car employes is before the New Jersey Legislature.
In Omaha barbers must pass an examination.
Savannah insurance rates have been increased.
Mrs. Wallace, of Chichago has a $150,000 gown.
Chicago Ladies' Tailor Union is winning a trike.
Milwaukee street car fare will probably be 4 cents.
Boston cigar-makers gave $250 to the striking textile workers.
New York tilelayers' helpers demand an increase of 25 cents a day.
South Farmingham (Mass.) machine lasters struck for 15 cents a case.
Senators Savidge and Thompson are members of the Detroit longshoremen's union.
The treasury of the United Pattern-makers' Society, of England, contains $80,000.
Salt Lake City has fixed the maximum rate to be charged by the Natural Gas Company.
Alexandria (Ind.) glassworkers won a strike for the reinstatement of one of their number.
The city of Chicago will do its own garbage collecting instead of giving the work to contractors.
A ten-hour day for railroad employes will be secured by a bill before the Massachusetts Legislature.
Philadelphia has now an ordinance requiring every vehicle on the streets at night and proceeding faster than a walk to carry [illegible]

LOVELL [illegible]
B[illegible]

Remarkable Im[illegible] the Lovell Di[illegible] Out Ahead [illegible]

Where there are [illegible] cycles on the mar[illegible] sight seem to be o[illegible] casual observer, a[illegible] known that there is [illegible] use where it is so ea[illegible] er to cover up the i[illegible] bicycle, both in ma[illegible] ship, and which [illegible] the machine has been g[illegible] road, such an investig[illegible] been completed by the be[illegible] country, under the sup[illegible] Western Review of Comme[illegible] be of great value to the ridin[illegible] honor of producing the best [illegible] the thirty-seven well-known [illegible] were test[illegible] the old-est[illegible] of John P. Lovell & Co.[illegible] manufacturers of the [illegible] Diamond. The investig[illegible] in a thorough manner b[illegible] perts in the construction [illegible] before them were placed t[illegible]



COLONEL BENJAMIN S.
President of the John P. Lov[illegible]

leading makes. The mach[illegible] marvels of the most recent [illegible] chanical construction, an[illegible] together without the slightes[illegible] knowledge to the manufactu[illegible] test was to take place. The p[illegible] composing the investigating b[illegible] weeded the machines down [illegible] ber, and, after several d[illegible] in" of the [illegible] "five [illegible] el[illegible] they [illegible] perts [illegible] immed[illegible] company informin[illegible] gation made and the [illegible] an[illegible] this was the first intim[illegible] on that [illegible] Lovell company had of [illegible] matter. The statement that the Lovell Diamond is the best bicycle built is based upon the fact that every part of the machine is made at their own factory. Previous to and including 1896 the machine bearing the name of the Lovell Diamond was manufactur[illegible] for the John P. Lovell Arms Co. by outside parties, but beginning with the season of 1897, every part of every machine bore their name plate has been constructed [illegible] factory of the John P. Lovell Arms [illegible] South Portland, Maine. This fact accounts for the proven supremacy of "Lovell Diamond" over all other [illegible] makes of the world. The Lovell Arms Company have three stores in Boston, Washington street, Broad street and Massachusetts avenue, and branch stores in Worcester Mass., Providence, R. I., Pawtucket, R. I., Portland and Bangor, Me., besides having agents in nearly every city and town throughout the country. Their new catalogue, "Famous Diamonds of the World" free on application.

POPULAR SCIENCE.

Careful measurements prove the average curvature of the [illegible] 6.99 inches to the statute mile.

The soil of Hawaii is of a chocolate or reddish brown, a darker is best adapted to [illegible] coffee.

From the 140 pounds of gas [illegible] tracted in coking a ton of coal [illegible] 2000 distinct shades of aniline are made.

If we moved our legs proportionately as fast as an aunt, it lasted we could travel nearly 8 [illegible] an hour.

A notable event in municipal engineering is the operation of an electric light plant at Shoreditch, London, which the steam is generated by combustion of city refuse.

A twenty-years' record shows a fourth of the days at Greenwich observatory to be sunless, while fourteen per cent. of the days from May to September have ten hours of sunshine.

A Paris florist after many experiments is able to grow chrysanthemums with the odor of the rose, sunflowers with the perfume of the jasmine, and calla lilies with the scent of the violet.

Only the best of London fire engines can pump 500 gallons a minute, whereas some of the steamers in use in towns like Liverpool and Manchester are equal to 1500 and 1800 gallons a minute.

A Dutch chemist in Java claims to have discovered a process by which starch may be converted in sugar at half the present cost of sugar. The two substances are composed of the same chemical elements.

Much trouble has been experienced this winter by electric light companies owing to "freezing up" of their lamps in sleet storms. The sleet settles on the upper carbon and freezes as it trickles down till [illegible] are is broken.

Our senses do not fall asleep simultaneously. The eyelids are first affected, and shut out sight; next follows the sense of taste, then smelling, hearing, and touch, the last named being the lightest sleeper and the most easily aroused.

According to a German publication, a chemist of that country has prepared a fluid that has the power when injected into the tissues of a plant, to its roots, of anesthetic[illegible] the p[illegible] not destroying it, but tempo[illegible] suspending its vitality.

Mathematical calculations sho[illegible] an iron ship weighs twenty-se[illegible] cent. less than a wooden [illegible] carry 115 tons of co[illegible] tons carried by a [illegible] same dimensions.

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