

The Fisherman & Farmer.

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MIGHTY WAR VESSELS.

Launch of a Dynamite Cruiser and the Gunboat Yorktown.

A New Era Begun in American Naval History.

There have been many launches of big and little ships, iron and wooden, in years gone by at Cramp's shipyard, in Philadelphia, but never in the history of the city was so much excitement created as the dual launch on Saturday of the dynamite cruiser Vesuvius and the gunboat Yorktown.

What made it particularly notable was that it is the first launching for years of a war vessel there, that there were two ships to slide into the water and that Congress would be in town to witness the event.

At noon the excursion steamer Columbia, Captain George Tyler, lay at the pier at the foot of Washington street, adjacent to the old Navy Yard of blessed memories. She had been chartered by the Secretary of the Navy to convey his Congressional party from the cars to Cramp's yard. The steamer was gayly decked out in bunting, and after receiving her cargo of distinguished people, took up a good position in view of the event.

Strange to say, on the Columbia there were 166 members of the House of Representatives, which is more than is necessary for a quorum.

At three o'clock the Yard Superintendent reported everything ready for the launch and Mr. Charles Cramp gave the command, with the consent of the Secretary of the Navy, to "Let go the breakers of the Yorktown." Whack, whack, sounded the mauls as the men struck the chunks away, and just as this big iron hull began to slide riverward Miss May Cameron, daughter of Senator Cameron, of Pennsylvania, whacked the gunboat over her nose with a bottle of champagne, held by red, white and blue ribbons. It broke and as the wine spilled all down over the ship's right iron and paint, this lovely girl said: "I baptize these Yorktowns." The Yorktown began to move at six and a half minutes past three o'clock, and floated gracefully on the Delaware within a minute.

Hardly had the excitement over the first event subsided when it broke out afresh over the dynamite cruiser, which lay on its ways, near the place the Yorktown had left. Miss Eleanor Breckinridge, daughter of Congressman Breckinridge, of Kentucky, performed the christening function for the dynamite cruiser, as Miss Cameron had for the gunboat. As she broke the bottle over her bow this Blue Grass belle exclaimed, "I baptize thee Vesuvius." This was indeed news to even the Secretary's intimate friends, as he had kept it a secret till, at the last moment, he handed Miss Breckinridge his official order to call the cruiser Vesuvius. The Vesuvius glided graceful on her element four minutes after the Yorktown.

The Vesuvius.

The dynamite cruiser Vesuvius has a length of 246 feet, with a beam of 26 feet 6 inches; her mean draught is 8 1/2 feet on the plans and her displacement 700 tons. Her engines will be of the latest triple expansion type, with twin screws, designed for 3500 horse power, which is expected to give a speed of twenty knots per hour. There will be four cylindrical locomotive boilers, 169 pounds steam each. She is very lightly built, but firmly put together, and will trust to her speed and shallow draught to choose her own time for fighting.

She will have three dynamite guns, fifty-four feet in length, fixed in position side by side, and they will really be built into the ship. They will project above the deck at an angle, and the shells to be thrown by them will weigh 200 pounds. In firing the guns it will be necessary to move the vessel in taking aim. The officers' quarters will be right aft, while the crew will berth forward in the usual manner, the midships of the boat being taken up with the appliances for loading and firing the guns, machinery, coal space and stores. The gallery and conning tower are of dynamite, or "43" pounds of gun cotton. It is claimed that this gun, properly handled, will be the most destructive engine of war yet invented, for the heaviest armored ships in the world will go all to pieces from the explosion of a shell much smaller than those thrown by the guns on the Yorktown.

The conning tower will be armored with two-inch steel plates, and will be on the forecastle. The Captain's quarters will be under the quarter deck, as will also the armory and a room devoted to the torpedoes. Speaking tubes and telegraphic arrangements will enable the officer and pilot to communicate with those below. There will also be a complete electric light plant, with two sets of dynamos.

The Yorktown.

The gunboat Yorktown, or as she is more commonly called, "Gunboat No. 1," is an unarmored steel cruiser of 1000 tons displacement. Her length is 230 feet, beam 38 feet with a draught of water of about 13 feet forward and 15 feet aft. There will be twin screws, with triple expansion engines of the latest improved type, designed for a horse power of 2300 with natural and 3300 with forced draught, and it is expected that she will make a speed of seventeen knots. She carries four pneumatic guns for the hurling of dynamite projectiles, each with a range of at least a mile. The training of the guns is accomplished by steering the vessel, and the loading is all done by steam. The guns are of 15-inch calibre, and the shells, which can be fired with great accuracy twice a minute, will contain 600 pounds of explosive gelatine, equivalent to 825 pounds of dynamite, or "43" pounds of gun cotton. It is claimed that this gun, properly handled, will be the most destructive engine of war yet invented, for the heaviest armored ships in the world will go all to pieces from the explosion of a shell much smaller than those thrown by the guns on the Yorktown.

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A UNITED STATES Consular report declares that increased railroad facilities have made the beautifully located city of Zurich, Switzerland, a formidable rival to Lucerne and Geneva as a resort for pleasure-seekers from foreign lands. The erection of a large number of handsome new buildings, and the city's new quay improvements, which will cost when finished nearly \$1,400,000, have already transformed Zurich into the most attractive of Swiss cities.

The Chinese colony in Chicago consists of 2,000 souls, of whom only two are women. About one hundred of them are merchants, several of whom have fortunes of from \$100,000 to \$200,000. Four firms, dealing in tea, coffee and Chinese groceries, have an aggregate capital of \$500,000.

THE NEWS EPITOMIZED.

Eastern and Middle States.

The Pennsylvania Republican State Convention at Harrisburg nominated James T. Mitchell for Supreme Court Judge and chose Delegates at Large to the Republican National Convention headed by Senator Quay. The platform declares for protection to American industries.

The Delaware Iron Works in New York City were destroyed by fire, causing a loss of \$100,000. Four firemen were severely injured by a falling wall.

At Yonkers, N. Y., four workmen were killed by the caving-in of the walls of a tunnel they were digging.

A GRAND celebration was held in New Haven, Conn., in commemoration of the 250th birthday of the city.

The Massachusetts Republican Convention met at Boston and elected delegates to the Chicago Presidential Convention. It is an unopposed delegation, headed by Senator Hoar. The platform is for protection.

FOREST fires have caused great destruction of valuable timber around Kingston, Plymouth and Foxboro, in Massachusetts.

The Maverick Oil Works at Boston, Mass., were destroyed by fire causing a loss of \$200,000. One employee was killed and three others frightfully burned.

GEORGE DUNHAM has been hanged at Woodbury, N. J., for the murder of his mother-in-law.

The Maine Republican Convention held its session at Bangor and adopted resolutions urging a maintenance of the present protective tariff. Delegates were elected to the Chicago Convention, who are pledged to support Blaine for the Presidential nomination.

The Crosby High Liquor License bill has passed both Houses of the New York Legislature. It fixes the liquor license at from \$300 to \$1000, and the beer license at from \$100 to \$400.

JOHN B. BISCOE, a colored man, has been hanged at Leonardtown, Md., for the murder of Captain R. P. Dixon in 1888.

The sixty-sixth anniversary of the birthday of General Grant was celebrated throughout the country, particularly by notable gatherings of men in New York, Boston and Pittsburg.

The remains of ex-Governor John T. Hoffman, who recently died abroad, were brought to New York, and after memorial services in Grace Church, were taken to Sing Sing, N. Y., and there interred.

FREDERICK WITTE, a New York clerk, while attempting to put out an electric light received a shock that resulted fatally.

A LAD in Grove City, Penn., hanged himself because his mother whipped him.

The Rev. Edgar L. Heermance, former pastor of the Presbyterian Church at White Plains, N. Y., committed suicide Sunday by shooting himself while standing in that church's pulpit.

GENERAL JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, the highest in rank of living officers of the Confederate army, has been unanimously elected an honorary member of E. D. Baker Post, G. A. R., of Philadelphia.

South and West.

The Republican State Convention met in Fort Worth, Texas, and sent an unopposed delegation to the National Republican Convention to be held in Chicago.

FLORIDA'S delegation to the Republican National Convention is unopposed.

An examination of the books shows that James Cummings, manager of R. G. Dun & Co.'s Business Agency, at Dayton, Ohio, who killed himself a few days ago, was \$64,000 short.

SAMUEL DEW killed the City Marshal of Nelsonville, Ohio, and then committed suicide.

The large dry goods house of Metcalf Bros. & Co., at Detroit, Mich., has made an assignment. Liabilities, \$300,000.

HEAVY frosts have done great damage to truck farms in Virginia.

The dwelling house of Louis Stroman, near Springfield, S. C., was burned and four of Stroman's children—two boys and two girls—perished in the flames. Stroman's eldest son was fatally burned while endeavoring to rescue his brothers and sisters.

The Indiana State Democratic Convention met at Indianapolis and nominated for Governor, Courtland C. Matson; for Lieutenant Governor, W. R. Myers; for Secretary of State, R. W. Miers; for Auditor, C. A. Munson; for Treasurer, Thomas Byrne. The Convention then adopted resolutions indorsing the Administration and suggesting the name of Governor Gray for the Vice Presidential nomination. Delegates were instructed to support Cleveland in the St. Louis Convention.

FIRE destroyed the shoe shop attached to the penitentiary at Chester, Ill. The keepers marched the 125 convicts out of the building and locked them in their cells just in time to save them from death in the flames.

At Galesburg, Ill., W. A. Hedberg, a Burlington engineer, killed Herbert Newell, a striker, and seriously wounded a fireman.

ALEXANDER JONES has been hanged at Tallahassee, Fla., for the murder of George Cuthbert. While in jail waiting to receive the death penalty he murdered one of his guards.

By the breaking through of the floor in the Rushsylvania (Ohio) town hall, three persons were killed and many injured.

JOHN QUARLES, of Ridgeway, S. C., attempted to punish his young brother for a trifling offense, when the boy stabbed him to the heart, killing him instantly.

ARCH STOLTZ, a farmer who lived near Richmond, Ky., killed himself with poison. His brother William, seeing the corpse, took the remainder of the drug and died, asking to be buried in the same coffin with Arch.

Washington.

The President has approved the act for a bridge across the Mississippi River at Memphis; the act granting the right of way to the Duluth, Rainy Lake River and Southwestern Railway Company, through certain Indian lands in the State of Minnesota; the act making an appropriation for the erection of a building for the Chief Signal Officer of the Army.

The Ways and Means Committee has decided to continue the debate over the tariff bill seventeen days. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays the House will rise at 5:30 P. M., and reassemble at 8 P. M., the evening sessions to be for debate only. On Mondays and Saturdays the sessions will end at 5:30 P. M. Saturday will be devoted to pension legislation as usual.

The President has approved the act to prevent any person in the cities of Washington and Georgetown from making books and pools on the result of trotting or running races.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND has decided to visit New York on Decoration Day in order to participate in the Grand Army memorial exercises in that city and Brooklyn. He will first review the parade in New York and will then go to Brooklyn and review the parade there.

A MAJORITY of the members of both houses have accepted the invitation of the Secretary of the Navy to witness the launching of the new war vessels at the Cramp shipyard in Philadelphia.

TOTAL amount of bonds offered in reply to Secretary Fairchild's recent call, \$3,601,050; total accepted, \$3,775,650; total cost, \$4,291,790.75. Total saving in interest to the Government, \$865,984.75.

Foreign.

THE Prince of Wales has, for the fifteenth time, been installed as Grand Master of the Free Masons of the world.

The Queen of England ended her visit to Berlin by reviewing a brilliant military pageant that was held in her honor.

QUEEN VICTORIA has returned to England, landing at Sheerness.

THE Servian Ministry has resigned and a new Ministry formed.

The Panama Lottery Loan bill has passed the French Chamber of Deputies by a vote of 312 to 132. This empowers Count De Lesseps to establish a lottery in furtherance of his Ship Canal scheme in Panama.

THIRTEEN lives were lost by the sinking of the ship Smyrna off the Isle of Wight.

LATER NEWS.

FRESHETS have done much damage in valleys of the Connecticut, Merrimac, Kennebec and other New England rivers, and in the States of Wisconsin and Minnesota.

DAVID N. BURKE, of New York, to be Consul of the United States at Bahia, and Francis Gross, of New York, to be Appraiser of Merchandise in the district of New York, are the latest appointments by President Cleveland.

W. G. DUTTENHOFFER, tax-collector of Columbia, Penn., having defaulted to the amount of \$6000, now turns out to be a forger as well, his bonds having no genuine signatures upon them.

Two little children of Emil Faist were burned to death in New York city by the explosion of a kerosene lamp in the hands of their mother.

A PEANUT trust has been formed at Norfolk, Va., which controls the entire peanut interest of this country with the exception of three small factories.

The bodies of Mrs. Mary J. Kearney, aged sixty, and James Hand, aged seven, have been discovered on the ranch where they had been living, ten miles from Colorado Springs, Col. The boy had a large fortune, which was held in trust for him. There is no clue to the murderers.

The boiler in William Caldwell's file factory at Rushville, Ind., exploded, killing three men and wounding five others.

MEXICAN troops had a sharp battle with hostile Yaqui Indians on the Tejabampo Mountains, in which twenty-one redskins were killed and fourteen taken prisoner.

The British Government offers to owners of over twenty horses an annual retainer of \$2.50 for each horse for the option of purchasing them in time of war.

PAUL KRUGER has been re-elected President of the Transvaal Republic.

CHARLES A. RICKERD, a New York policeman caught in the act of robbing a store on his beat, was arrested, disgraced by having the buttons cut from his uniform, indicted, sentenced to ten years' imprisonment and taken to Sing Sing, all in less than ten hours.

DR. SIMMONS, of New York, who attended Samuel J. Tilden in his last illness, has sued the executors of the Tilden estate for \$143,000, the amount of his bill for medical services.

EX-ASSISTANT CASHIER DE BAUX, of the National Park Bank, New York, has stolen \$95,000 of the institution's funds and fled, it is surmised, to Canada. This does not affect the stability of the bank, as it has a large surplus.

NEW HAMPSHIRE Democrats held their State Convention at Concord, and adopted resolutions approving the President's message on the subject of Tariff reform, and recommending him to the St. Louis convention for renomination. The delegates were instructed to so vote in the Presidential Convention.

HENRY POPE, a colored murderer, was sentenced to be hanged Friday, at Summerville, Ga., but Governor Gordon respite him for sixty days. There was such intense feeling against the culprit, however, that a mob of citizens took him from jail and lynched him.

The State Republican Convention met at Columbia, S. C., and chose delegates to the Chicago Convention, who go thither unopposed on the subject of a Presidential nominee.

Two section men were killed and three badly hurt near Elko, Neb., by an engine running into a hand car.

The Wisconsin Democracy assembled in convention at Madison and adopted resolutions demanding Tariff reform and indorsing the administration of President Cleveland. A delegation was sent to the St. Louis Convention that will support Cleveland for the Presidential nomination. As electors-at-large the Convention elected Nelson Dewey, who was the first Governor of the State of Wisconsin ever had, and Thomas Thompson, a young Norwegian, from Trempealeau county.

GENERAL WIRT ADAMS, postmaster of Jackson, Miss., and John H. Martin, editor of the *New Mississippian*, fought a street duel, in which both were killed. The cause of animosity was certain articles in Martin's paper reflecting on the veracity of Adams.

The President has approved the act making appropriations for the support of the Military Academy; the act to secure the relinquishment of the Indian title to certain portions of the reservation of the Sioux nation of Indians; the act ratifying an agreement with the Gros Ventre, Piegan, Blood, Blackfoot, and River Crow Indians in Montana; the act for a public building at Greenville, S. C., and the act for the construction of an arsenal at Columbia, Tenn.

SIR ALFRED PHILLIPS RYDER, Admiral of her British Majesty's fleet, has been drowned in the Thames at London. Admiral Ryder suffered from insomnia, and the drowning was the result of an accident.

DR. JUNKER, the explorer, in a lecture before the Berlin Geographical Society, expressed his conviction that Stanley is now with Emin Bey. This is the opinion of all the leading German explorers.

THOUSANDS POISONED.

Attempted Annihilation of an Indian Tribe in Brazil.

Over Three Thousand Natives Killed by Poisoned Water.

An account of an alleged poisoning of a large number of Brazilian Indians by one Senhor Joaquim Bueno, has been received. The story shows that Bueno has already poisoned 3800 Indians and was meditating the murder of 5000 more.

The Sao Paulo weekly, the *Pauista*, of Taubate, a Brazilian newspaper says:

The worthy Bishop of Goyaz has engaged several missionaries and acquired books for the purpose of teaching and converting the Indians of our backwoods. Little did we think that at Parapanema a certain Senhor Joaquim Bueno was also carrying out a conversion of a different kind among the Guayanus Indians, surrounded with the greatest horrors. A person recently arrived from the west, who deserves our entire confidence, heard Senhor J. Bueno himself relate in the presence of the Municipal Judge of Lencoes and of other persons the following exploits achieved by him against the poor Indians:

Bueno, who resides at Sao Jose dos Campos Novos, stated that he had under his orders about seventy people employed in the persecution and extermination of the Indians. Some days ago they attacked a village and put to flight all the Indians, who abandoned to their persecutors their huts, which were inhabited by bodies of from ten to twenty Indians, who sleep on raised platforms made of logs fastened together, so that from the beds, when all are counted, the number of the inhabitants contained in each village can be ascertained when they are absent.

Around each of these villages there are three wells or holes; one, the deepest, is the well which supplies them with water, in another they keep a drink made of fermented maize, which they call "piksi," and which composes their wine or rum, and in the last they preserve game, birds, and salt fish for their subsistence.

As soon as the assailants found themselves in possession of the village, being furnished with a considerable amount of strychnine, they set about poisoning all the wells containing water, wine and provisions, and after putting into execution this treacherous deed withdrew without touching anything else.

Some days afterward Bueno and his followers returned to the village, and even from a distance comprehended the horror of the sight from clouds of crows hovering over the site of the crime, where they found stark and scattered 3000 corpses.

The crimes do not end here. Days afterward they attacked and exterminated another village of eight hundred Indians on which occasion, having no strychnine, they made use of sublimated mercury in the same manner, poisoning the deposits of water, wine and provisions, and at the time of speaking they were preparing to attack another village of five thousand Indians.

This Senhor J. Bueno states that he is supported by influential people and by five Provincial Deputies.

If still in time it is the duty of the provincial government to prevent the horrors planned for the next attack, the description of which we have here recorded, in favor of these unfortunate nomads and for the shame of the human species.

THE GOVERNORS MEET.

Chief Executives of Thirteen States Assemble in Convention.

In response to a call issued some time ago by Governor Beaver, the governors of the thirteen original States, or their representatives, with the exception of Massachusetts, met in Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia, Saturday, to consider plans for the establishment of a fitting and lasting memorial to commemorate the first centenary of the inauguration of George Washington as the first President of the United States. Governor Green, of New Jersey, was made Chairman of the meeting.

Resolutions were unanimously adopted calling upon the National Government and the various States and Territories of the Union to make suitable appropriations to a fund to be dedicated to the building of a grand national monument commemorative of the framing and adoption of the Constitution, to be erected within the city of Philadelphia, said monument to bear the names of the signers of the Declaration of Independence in their autographs, and of the framers of the Constitution. A resolution was also adopted declaring that the Governors of the thirteen original States be invited to appoint a Commissioner from each State to cooperate with the citizens of New York in their preparations to fitly celebrate the centennial celebration of the inauguration of George Washington as the first President of the United States, and to invite co-operation on the part of the sister States and Territories.

PROMINENT PEOPLE.

TENNYSON is at work on a poem of some length.

HENRY T. COXWELL, the balloonist, now 70, has made 700 ascents.

BISHOP WILSON is the oldest preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

EMPEROR DON PEDRO, of Brazil, is a great admirer of George Eliot's novels.

ELIZABETH CADY STANTON, at 72, is as much interested in this world as ever.

SENATOR SAULSBURY, of Delaware, is the only bachelor in the United States Senate.

EMPEROR ELIZABETH, of Austria, is superbly beautiful, and has a wealth of golden hair.

MISS ROSE ELIZABETH CLEVELAND will remain in Washington until the latter part of June.

PRESIDENT DIAZ, of Mexico, has received the French decoration of the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor.

SECRETARY WHITNEY is very fond of animals, and has several fine horses and one dog for which he paid \$500.

SECRETARY BALFOUR, of the English Cabinet, used to be known in school and at college as "Clara Balfour."

CONGRESSMAN W. D. KELLEY, of Pennsylvania, "Father of the House," recently celebrated his seventy-fourth birthday.

The Duke of Marlborough returns to this country in June. It is said to continue his wooing of a young and very wealthy American widow.

THE Rev. Robert Collyer, of New York, was twenty-seven years old when he came to this country and brought his wife over with him in the steerage.

GABRIEL SALAUSON, the young Frenchman who is to marry a daughter of the British Minister at Washington, is of Hebrew descent and wealthy.

THE Duc de Cazes, the \$60,000 bridegroom-elect of Isabella Blanche Singer, the American heiress, is an insignificant-looking little man, and anything but an Apollo.

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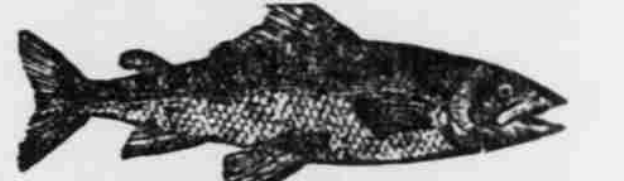
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