

## THE STOKER A HERO.

On Men-of-War There is no Position More Trying Than His.

Stripped to the waist, perspiring in the terrible heat of the furnaces, the stoker never knows how the battle is going, whether his ship will be blown into the air or sent to the bottom, as he throws the coal into the fiery maw of the furnace.

Among the dangers on a battleship none more dangerous than the men who tend the furnaces and pass the coal. However the conflict above him may range, the stoker hears only its distant murmur and feels only the shock as the shell's impact trembles against the steel sides and the great guns recoil from the thousand pounds of steel and powder hurled at the enemy. Perhaps a chance shot may pierce the 10 inches of armor that guard the engines and boilers and the rushing water may drown him as he vainly seeks to escape. Perhaps the 50 tons of explosives in the magazines may be reached by a projectile from the enemy's guns and he may be blown to pieces in the steel cell where he is at work.

At any time the crisis may come, and small chance is there for him to catch on the floating spar or wreckage. In such cases the stoker-hole always proves the coffin of the men who feed the furnaces and lend the initial assistance towards making the war vessel a thing of life.

The stoker-hole in a battleship is situated far below the water line at a point almost amidships. A long, grimy room it is, hemmed in by steel walls and coal bunkers, with a score of fiery furnace doors that send out gleaming rays of light into the apartment, the only light that the room ever receives. It has no windows and no doors. In the ceiling above great ventilators pierce the steel. Currents of cool air take the place of that sucked in by the furnaces. The room is filled with a sickening heat that only the experienced stoker can stand.

In this room the stoker works, and works hard. The duties are so severe that he is rarely required to work a shift of more than three hours. A line of coal passers; constantly moves, each man trundling a barrow of coal into the stoker-hole, and as it is dumped on the floor the stoker, armed with a long shovel, jerks the chain that opens the door, seizes a shovelful of fuel and dashes it into the great bed of glowing, roaring flame, where it is licked up almost before the stoker, with half-shielded face, can close the door.

Each stoker has an allotted number of furnace doors to take care of, according to the size of the ship and the capacity of its boilers. He has scarcely a moment's rest during his shift and when he is not throwing coal into the glowing ovens of flame he wields a rake in the burning fuel, and nicety of experience keeps the great furnace at an even heat. The steam gauge over his head is watched and every fluctuation noted. The assistant engineer who superintends the work of stoker, is constantly on the alarm. The life of a battleship may often depend on a proper handling by the engineer. If one of the furnaces is disabled by a chance shot, no harm may result, but if more are disabled the ship may be at the enemy's mercy.

In spite of their hard duties the stokers are healthy, strong and vigorous men. The intense heat in which they work tans their skin a dark brown. They are fairly well paid and have many liberties. They are idle more or less when the vessel is in port and little steam is kept up.

When the battle begins the men in the stoker-hole are able to tell only that the ship has gone into action. They hear the roar of the batteries as they are fired and feel the shock of the shell as it bursts on the armored sides; but the terrible anxiety of a half day's conflict is greater to them than to the men who work the guns or direct the ship's movements.

As the battle goes on there are many who win praise for bravery in action, but to the stoker there is only to toil on in the furious heat, each one doing his small share. He helps to win by keeping his integral part of the engine of war in working order, at the direction of the commander.

## Queer Fishing Custom.

A few years ago the fishermen of Preston, Lancashire, used to go fishing on Sunday, the same as on other days. A clergyman of the town preached against Sabbath desecration, and prayed that they might catch no fish. And they did not! But they found out how to make his prayers of no avail. The fisherman used to make a little effigy of the parson in rags, and put the small 'guy' up their chimneys. While his reverence was slowly smoked and consumed, the fish bit—like everything! The fishermen of the Isle of Man always feel safe from storm and disaster if they have a dead wren on board. They have a tradition that at one time an evil spirit haunted the herring pack and was always attended by storms. The spirit assumed many forms, and at last it took the form of a wren and flew away. Since then if they have a dead wren with them they feel certain that all will be safe and snug. On the Norfolk coast they think that fleas and fish come together. An old fisherman near Cromer

## "OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS"



This is a title which Miss Canada didn't seem to care for, but it exactly fits our wash-lady who uses

## Eclipse Soap

and turns out snowy-white goods.

Send us 25 "Eclipse" wrappers or 6c. in stamps with coupon and we will mail you a popular novel. A coupon in every bar of "Eclipse."

JOHN TAYLOR & CO.,

Manufacturers, Toronto, Ont.

was heard to say: 'Times is that you might look in any flannel shirt and see scarce a flea, and then there ain't but a few herrings; and times there are when my shirt's alive with 'em and then there's sartin to be a sight o' fish.' Flannel-shirted anglers, please note!

## NO WONDER THEY ARE SO POPULAR.

Ever increasing in popularity. Ever extending their name and benefits, TURKISH DYES are welcomed in every household in the land. They do so much, and do it well. Never throw away an old garment as long as TURKISH DYES are in the house or town. TURKISH DYES will make it new, whatever the condition, and whatever the age. And when once it is thus made new, it will remain so. TURKISH DYES are the most brilliant dyes in the world, as they are the most lasting. Have you ever wasted a garment dyed with the common dyes? Will you ever forget the mortification you suffered as you beheld the wretched result?

TURKISH DYES will never come out. They are the only dyes that stand the work. They are brilliant first, last and all the time.

Send postal for 'How to Dye well' and Sample Card to 481 St. Paul Street, Montreal.

## Costly Bluff.

'Madam,' said the officer, 'I have a warrant for searching these premises for a valuable article of jewelry believed to be stolen by you.'

'You have, have you?' she answered defiantly. 'Well, you may begin by searching me.'

The bluff was a costly one. The officer was a woman in disguise, and found the pocket at the first dive.

## HAPPY RELEASE

From a Trio of Afflictions.

Paine's Celery Compound Saves the Life of a Lady in Seamo, Man.

THE TERRORS OF RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA AND HEADACHES ARE BANISHED FOREVER.

Health and Happiness Bestowed on All Who Make Use of Paine's Celery Compound.

WELLS & RICHARDSON CO.,

GENTLEMEN:—I am very pleased to be able to tell you of the great good that I have derived from the use of your Paine's Celery Compound. Before using your valuable compound I was so crippled with rheumatism that I had to crawl on hands and knees from one place to another. I also suffered from neuralgia and dreadful headaches, and could not get more than one or two hours sleep each night. I often thought it would be better to die than live and endure my terrible agony.

I was happily advised to use Paine's Celery Compound, and after use of six bottles the rheumatism and neuralgia are banished, and I now eat rest and sleep well. My present improved state of health is due entirely to the health-giving virtues of Paine's Celery Compound, which has done wonders for me. My husband is now using it for dyspepsia, and it is doing wonders for him. My neighbors to whom I have recommended Paine's Celery Compound have been greatly blessed.

Yours Truly,  
MRS. ANNIE R. COBB,  
Seamo, Man.

Received in an Encounter.  
Bachelor—'You spent most of your time at home since your marriage.'

Benedict (rapturously)—'Ah, yes! A pair of blue eyes kept me there. By the way, I haven't seen you of late. Where have you been?'

Bachelor—'At home. A pair of black eyes kept me there.'—Up-to-Date.

## THE HEART IS THE ELECTRIC MOTOR OF THE SYSTEM.

ITS CURRENT MUST NOT STOP.

THE DR. WARD CO., Toronto.

GENTLEMEN,—It gives me pleasure to endorse Dr. Ward's Blood and Nerve Pills. For years I have suffered from weakness of the heart and my nerves were treacherous. I was irritable, worried, easily alarmed, and suffered greatly at times, but since taking your Blood and Nerve Pills I have felt splendid. My nerves are strong and I am free from distress and have had no trouble with my heart since using your Blood and Nerve Pills. I gladly recommend these pills to all those who suffer from any heart or nerve trouble.

(Signed)  
MISS MAGGIE BURNS,  
113 D'Arcy St., TORONTO, ONT.

Price 50c. per box, 5 boxes for \$2.00, at druggists, or if not obtainable at your druggist, mailed on receipt of price by the DR. WARD CO., Victoria St., Toronto. Book of Information FREE.

## Disordered Kidneys.

Perhaps they're the source of your ill health and you don't know it.

Here's how you can tell:—

If you have Back Ache or Lame Back.

If you have Puffiness under the Eyes or Swelling of the Feet.

If your Urine contains Sediment of any kind or is High Colored and Scanty.

If you have Coated Tongue and Nasty Taste in the Mouth.

If you have Dizzy Spells, Headaches, Bad Dreams,—Feel Dull, Drowsy, Weak and Nervous. Then you have Kidney Complaint.

The sooner you start taking

DOAN'S KIDNEY PILLS

the more quickly will your health return.

They've cured thousands of cases of kidney trouble during the past year. If you are a sufferer they can cure you.

Book that tells all about Doan's Kidney Pills sent free to any address.

The Doan Kidney Pill Co., Toronto, Ont.



## 50 YEARS' EXPERIENCE PATENTS

TRADE MARKS DESIGNS COPYRIGHTS & C.

Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain our opinion free whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. Handbook on Patents sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the

Scientific American.

A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, \$3 a year; four months, \$1. Sold by all newsdealers. MUNN & CO., 361 Broadway, New York. Branch Office, 625 F St., Washington, D. C.

## A FAMOUS SIEGE.

The Most Interesting Bombardment in the History of Warfare.

Undoubtedly the most interesting story of siege and bombardment in the annals of warfare since cannons were first invented is that of the unsuccessful attempt of Spain to regain in 1779 the fortress of Gibraltar which England had taken by storm a few years before. For three years and seven months the stronghold was invested by a large force of all arms, and a practically uninterrupted fire from 135 guns, including some 50 mortars of 13 inch calibre, was maintained from Jan. 12, 1780, till Feb. 2, 1783. Meanwhile the gallant little garrison was but once relieved and suffered all the pangs of starvation, not unmingled sometimes with a feeling of despair. Still they clung to the gigantic rock, repelling attack after attack with indomitable courage and endurance and inflicting enormous losses on their opponents. The latter, indeed, are deserving of praise for the pertinacity and perseverance with which they returned to the fray time after time, undaunted by continual reverses, and hopeful ever to retrieve the disgrace which they considered the presence of the hated 'infidels' put upon them.

The most interesting and exciting episode during this long long siege was the ferocious attempt made by the Spaniards toward the close, when they strained every nerve to dislodge and overcome the already exhausted but still unflinching garrison. More than 50,000 troops and 170 pieces of large calibre were at the disposal of the Spanish general and an ingenious type of floating batteries, strongly resembling the famous 'cheese boxes on rafts' of the late war, had been devised by the dons, who expected great things of them in the meditated assault. The numbers of the opposing forces were ludicrously disproportionate. Besides the above mentioned troops and guns, the Spanish possessed nine line of battleships, 15 gun or motor boats, covered boats sufficient to land nearly 40,000 men, and in addition, the 10 floating batteries, which consisted of large vessels, their sides protected by a banking of timber seven feet thick and the decks and guns screened with a slanting roof of shot proof material. To this gigantic armament the defence could only oppose some 7,000 men, many of them sick or wounded, and all reduced to scanty rations for many months past; ammunition was limited, and the cannon even then antiquated.

On the 8th of September, 1782, fire was opened on the fortress at a preconcerted signal by the entire strength of the Spanish artillery both on land and afloat. The "floating batteries" were moored within half range and proved indeed invulnerable to shot and shell, which lasted all night and day until late on the 12th. On that day the garrison, unable to make any impression on the fleet, whose efforts were beginning to give the small force of defenders considerable trouble and inconvenience, conceived the idea of loading the guns with red hot shot and burning shells which, though of little or no penetrating power turned out to be very effective against the wooden sides of the battleships and gunboats. In fact, within a very few hours every one of the floating batteries lay quiescent on the water, a useless mass of burning hulks. The endeavors and energy of the defenders finally prevailed over the vast numerical superiority of their opponents, and on the 14th of the month the desperately conducted attack was given up and the Spanish troops retired to their lines, severely crippled by the enormous losses they had suffered; winter quarters were taken up, the bombardment was practically abandoned, and peace was declared on the 2nd of February following.

Thus ended one of the most memorable sieges that can be found in the pages of history; remarkable for many reasons, but most of all for the small loss of life among the defenders, who, during the three years and a half that the investment lasted lost in all but 500 men, while they inflicted on the enemy a total loss of several thousand men. Gibraltar today simply bristles with artillery; the mountain is honey combed with passages and galleries leading to remote hidden batteries, some of them excavated by years of arduous toil in the very bowels of the gigantic rock. Looking at the huge guns, many of them of immense weight and large calibre, one is almost forced to the conclusion that they must have 'grown there,' for to one not learned in the mysterious ways and workings of the gunner and engineer it seems absolutely impossible that these monstrously long engines of destruction could, by anything but superhuman agency, have been brought through the steep and tortuous passages that form the sole approach to the dark, silent casemates where they repose.

## Heart Disease Relieved in 30 Minutes.

Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart gives perfect relief in all cases of Organic or Sympathetic Heart Disease in 30 minutes, and speedily effects a cure. It is a peerless remedy for Palpitation, Shortness of Breath, Smothering Spells, Pain in the Left Side, and all symptoms of a Diseased Heart. One dose convinces.

Every Berry Selected as carefully as the master builder chooses the most perfect stones for the completion of a famous piece of work.

So it is not to be wondered that the beverage made from

Chase & Sanborn's Seal Brand Coffee

is par excellent.

And it is not strange that thousands of homes delight in the joys of a drink made from such material.

Every grocer who prides himself on handling the best class of goods sells Chase & Sanborn's Seal Brand Coffee, in one and two pound cans, sealed with a seal and guarantee of perfection.



Are Supplied in various Qualities for all purposes.

Pure, Antiseptic, Emollient.

Ask your dealer to obtain full particulars for you.

F. C. CALVERT & CO., Manchester.

## Spring Purification.

The clogged-up machinery of the system requires cleaning out after the wear and tear of the winter's work. Nothing will do this so thoroughly and perfectly as the old reliable

## Burdock Blood Bitters.

It cures Constipation, Sick Headaches, Feeling of Tiredness, and all the evidences of Sluggish Liver and Impure Blood, which are so prevalent in the spring. It makes rich, red blood and gives buoyancy and strength to the entire system.



## News and Opinions OF National Importance THE SUN ALONE CONTAINS BOTH.

Daily, by mail, \$6 a year  
Daily, and Sunday by mail, \$8 a year

## The Sunday Sun

is the greatest Sunday Newspaper in the world.

Price 5c. a copy. By mail \$2 a year  
Address THE SUN, New York.