

IN A SHIP-YARD

Army of Men Building Monster Battle-Ships.

The Century Albert Franklin describes "The Evolution of the Battle-ship," mainly with reference to the building of the Indiana, the most formidable engine of war in the world. It is worth while to look at a place that produces such a monster, he says.

The (ramp) ship-yard has nearly a mile of water-front. The frontage are ships in various stages of construction, some on stocks and some in the water, illustrating almost every step in the building of a vessel. Here, near the edge of the yard, is an acre or more of purchasing-machines, enormous contrivances that, as they close their jaws, with their ungainly teeth, pull holes for rivets in the plates as easily as a farmer's plow takes out the core of an apple. There is a steel checker-board into which big pins are set in rows. Against the pins stalwart men, half naked, bend the red-hot frames and plates, as they slide out of the furnace, into the jaws they must assume for use in vessels. Here is a great row of smith forges.

Over there is a building, where a monster boiler is in construction, and where a traveling crane lifts and moves them as easily as a hotel porter does big trunks. There are big ship-engines, some set and some taken down. Here are cranes where manganese-bronze wheels are cast, and where brass and iron are fashioned into a thousand uses. Here is the great mold-loft where every line in the ship is laid out, and from which wooden patterns of the vessels are made before the steel construction begins. There are the wood-working shops, the gun factory, the great storehouse, and there is the floating derrick that can pick up a 70-ton boiler and move it 300 feet, lift it high in the air, and place in a ship in thirty minutes, with as careful an adjustment as a watchmaker uses in fitting movement in its place.

And here are 5,000 men employed in various capacities—mechanists, workers, molders, and perhaps a noticeable of all, riveters in sets of three, one man to hold a big sledge against the red-hot rivet, and two, a right-handed worker and the left-handed, to pound it until it becomes a part of the ship. So the work goes on until after about two years the ship that existed only in specifications becomes a living thing.

The Oculist's Strategem.

There is an interesting account of a clever bit of detective work by an oculist. It appears that in a factory, in which were employed several hundred persons, one of the workmen, in wielding his hammer carelessly allowed it to slip from his hand. It flew halfway across the yard and struck a fellow workman in the left eye. The man averred that he was blinded by the blow, although a careful examination failed to reveal any injury, there being not a scratch visible. He brought a suit in the courts for compensation for loss of half of his eyesight, and demanded all offers of compromise.

Under the law the owner of the factory was responsible for the injury resulting from an accident of this kind, and although he believed that the man was shamming, and that the case was an attempt at swindling, he had about made up his mind to be compelled to pay him. The day of the trial arrived, and in open court an eminent attorney retained for the defense extended the alleged injured member, gave it as his opinion that it was not the right eye. Upon the plaintiff's loud protest of his inability to see with his left eye, the oculist told him a perjurer and satisfied the jury of the falsity of his claim.

How do you suppose he did it? Simply by knowing that the man was green and red-combined make. He procured a black card on which a few words were written with ink. Then the plaintiff was ordered to put on a pair of spectacles of two different glasses, the one for the right eye being red, and the one for the left eye consisting of ordinary glass. Then the card was handed to him and he was ordered to read the words on it. This he did without hesitation, and the cheat was at once detected. The sound right eye, fitted with the red glass, was unable to distinguish the green writing on the surface of the card, while the left eye, which he pretended was the one with which the card had to be done.—[Sheffield, Mass., Telegraph.]

Good Teeth Diet.

Oatmeal is excellent as nourishment for the teeth, because it makes the enamel strong, flint-like and decay-resisting. Bread made of whole meal and brown bread made of rye meal and cornmeal are superior for bone building. Beans should be used at least twice a week.

His First Case.

The Young Lawyer Acted Upon His Honor's Advice.

The young man had just been admitted to practise at the bar. He sat within the bar enclosure, speculating upon the chances of clients coming to him, by mistake or otherwise. He heard his name spoken, and started to his feet.

"Mr. De Novo, the prisoner at the bar is unable to employ counsel. Will you defend him?"

"Certainly, your Honor. May I retire with him to the bar office for a few moments' consultation?"

"Yes, sir; and give him your best advice."

A hardly perceptible sneer curled his Honor's lips as he uttered these last words, but the young man did not appear to notice it. Motioning for the prisoner to follow him, he passed into the other room. The door was closed, and for ten minutes the lively clatter of many conversations filled the court-room. Then the young man strolled into the room and dropped into a chair. The crier proclaimed, "Silence in the court-room!" His Honor gazed upon the young man and said:

"Are you ready to proceed?"

"Yes, your Honor."

"Where's the prisoner?"

"I really don't know."

"What?"

"I'm sure I don't know."

"Mr. De Novo, will you explain what you mean by this most extraordinary conduct?"

"Your Honor told me to give him the best advice I could, I believe?"

"Yes, sir."

"May it please the Court, when I consulted him I found he was guilty, and had really no defence whatever. So, in pursuance of your Honor's so kindly meant suggestion, I advised him to drop out of the window and make himself as scarce as possible."

Nature of Hiccough.

They that suffer from hiccough, and there are cases of death from this cause, may be pleased at learning just what the precise nature of hiccough is: "The hiccough is the result of a sudden, spasmodic contraction of the diaphragm, causing a jar of the wall of the abdomen and thorax, accompanied by a sharp, inarticulate sound, produced by the tightening and sonorous vibration of the edges of the glottis."—[Atlanta Constitution.]

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I presume, in fact I know, that he followed the first part of my advice, and I believe that he will also observe the rest of it."

The prisoner that was still at large.—[Harper's Magazine.]

Substitute for Putty.

A cheap and effective substitute for putty to stop cracks in woodwork is made by soaking newspapers in a paste made by boiling a pound of flour in three quarts of water, and adding a teaspoonful of alum. The mixture should be of about the same consistency as putty, and should be forced into the cracks with a case knife. It will harden like papier mache, and when dry may be painted or stained to match its surroundings, when it will be almost imperceptible. [St. Nicholas.]

That Wonderful Yield of Potatoes.

Mark E. Harrison, a Republic subscriber of twenty-five years standing, who resides at Greenfield, requests me to reproduce the little article which appeared in this department last spring concerning a French scientist's plans for securing a wonderful yield of potatoes. Here it is: He steeped his cuttings for twenty-four hours in a solution of six pounds of saltpeter, six pounds of sulphate of ammonia and twenty-five gallons of water. He next allowed them to drain a whole day, in order that the eye-buds might swell before planting. From potato cuttings treated in this manner and planted in the usual way he obtained a yield of forty-two tons of potatoes to the acre.—[St. Louis Republic.]

Oatmeal is excellent as nourishment for the teeth, because it makes the enamel strong, flint-like and decay-resisting.

Bread made of whole meal is best, and brown bread made of rye meal and cornmeal are superior for bone building. Baked beans should be used at least twice a week.

If afflicted with sore eyes use Dr. Thompson's Eye Water. Druggists sell at 25c. per bottle

"Knowledge is Folly Unless Put to Use." You Know

SAPOLIO?
THEN USE IT.



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