## **NAVYGROWS RAPIDLY**

## FIVE RIG WARSHIPS ADDED IN SINGLE YEAR.

Publication of "List and Station" Reveals Many Important Facts Regarding American Protectors-Look for More Ships.

Washington, D. C.-The American navy has become so great numerically that the old American way of listing warships, that is, according to their size, has had to be abandoned. The officers of the navy have been compelled to ape the British in the style of listing, which disregards size, and write down the names in alphabetical

The latest issue of "List and Station," the book just off the press, which shows the names and stations of officers and the names of ships, presents the ships' names arranged in that order. In the new style, the battleship Alabama heads the list. Under the old order the commissioning of a larger ship would have displaced her. Of course, battleships, being the most important vessels in the navy, will al-

ways have first place. In the "List and Station" of last wear the battleship Maine had the honor of first place because she was the largest and newest in commission. This year, had the old rule been followed, the Ohio would have had the place of honor, for, although she is no larger than the Maine, she is of more recent completion.

In the 12 months elapsed between the publication of the two books five ships of the largest size were added to the 13 then in the navy. They are the Ohio, Colorado, Pennsylvania, Maryland and West Virginia, the first named being a battleship of 12,500 tons displacement, and the others armored cruisers of 13,730 displacement. The larger displacement of the cruisers gives them a greater radius of action, but no greater power in the actual conflict

During the coming year five battleships are likely to be placed on the list of ships in active service, and the six armored cruisers under construction will all be ready for crews if the officers of the bureau of navigation can figure out where they can get the men. The annual report about the shortage of commissioned officers will be made to congress, but the real shortage will be in men willing to serve as laborers and mechanics under the hard conditions of service that are imposed upon those who can never hope to attain commissions.

The outlook is that the fiscal year 1905-6 will see more ships of great fighting power added to the American list than any like period in the history of the world. No naval establishment is being as rapidly augmented as the American.

Before there were so many yards it was the carefully inculcated impression that it took just about four years to build a battleship. That impression has been destroyed by the rapidity with which the New York navy yard and the Newport News Shipbuilding company are constructing the Louisiana and Connecticut. They will have those ships ready in 30 months.

Four years ago when Mr. Roosevelt became president the navy list contained the names of 12 so-called firstrate ships. Six of the ships then rated as first class have fallen out of that list because they are too small and too lightly armored to remain in that class. So that in number of first-rate whips alone during the incumbency of Roosevelt the navy has trebled.

# BEES ROB A CANDY-MAKER

## New York Manufacturer Asks Authorities to Protect His Sweets from Neighbor's Swarms.

New York -A candy manufacturer owning an extensive plant in Barclay street has appealed to the board of health for protection against thousands of honey bees which, he declares, are robbing him of large quantities of sweets. If the health authorities do not act, the candy maker says he will appeal to the police.

Since early last spring the complainant asserts that the honey collectors have attacked his employes and customers, and have made his establishment. the base of operations for filling with honey 28 hives on the roof of a nearby building, occupied by a firm which deals in beekeepers' supplies.

"I am in the unique position of being the only man in New York who is being daily robbed of enough augar to keep 5,000,000 bees busy making a metropolitan brand of honey," the candy maker said the other night. "Bee experts tell me that a hive as large as those on the Wesey street building contains about 250.-1000 bees. They are making a good thing out of me.

"It has come to be the exception when each day two or three of the girls or mea employes in my factory are not. stung. The wounds in many cases have been so painful that the victims have had to go home. The bees also invade my retail department on the ground floor, attacking customers and thus injuring my patronage."

The Wonderwork of Rain. . In parts of Australia, where the averare rainfall is not more than ten inches, a square mile of land will support only eight or nine sheep. In Buenos Ayres the same area, with 34 inches of rain, supports 2.560 sheep.

King Ed to Bat. The French government is going to make J. Pierpont Morgan a commander of the Legion of Honor. Now let King Edward come to bat. We understand that there is a vacancy in the Order of the Garter.

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# SAGE TO LIVE 100 YEARS.

Millionaire Expects to Pass the Century Mark-Remark of a Stock Exchange Broker.

New York.-Russell Sage, who recently celebrated his eighty-ninth birthday, was reported in financial circles to have told a friend that he expects to reach the age of 100 and that he also expects to see Missouri Pacific stock go to 200 before he dies.

The remark, circulated upon the floor of the stock exchange, caused much amused comment. It was remembered that when the same stock, Missouri Pacific, was at the figures a few years ago Mr. Sage denounced the upward movement as rank manipulation that would only hurt the railroad by exciting the anger of the farmer legislators in the states through which the road runs. It was then suspected that Mr. Sage's market operations made him view with disfavor the upward trend of the stock.

The stock was at 125 when the news of Mr. Sage's prediction came out. It

went back to 1241/4. Mr. Sage has been noted for longtime predictions in the stock market that came true. Not long ago Manhattan reached a high figure, predicted a decade ago for it by him. When one broker on the exchange, who is something of a wag, heard of Mr. Sage's prediction about living to be 100, he remarked:

"I don't see why Providence should wait for him to reach par when he can be got around 89, is economically managed and can be expected to earn carrying charges."

## RELIGION ROUTED BY RUM. Bishop Potter's Subway Tavern Gives Way Before a Real Saloon-Not

Well Patronized. New York.-The Subway tavern. which was opened 11 months ago with an address by Bishop Potter and the singing of the doxology, closed its doors at midnight recently for the last time as a "sanctified saloon." Its proprietor, it is stated, will sign over the place to a man who has conducted the restaurant on the premises. The new owner will take out the old sign and, after extensive alterations, will

run the place as an ordinary saloon. While all those connected with the establishment who could be seen the other night were reticent concerning the change, several employes in the tavern explained that there had not been sufficient income from sales to pay running expenses.

Instead of the well-known citizens who established the tavern drawing a five per cent. dividend, as they expected, it was said that in the last six months they had been compelled so often to go down into their pockets to make good a deficit that they had become tired and wished to be rid of the tavern entirely.

then the taver a year ago, it was announced that only pure liquors would be sold. One room was fitted up with a soda fountain, where women might be served with beer.

The outer walls of the building were painted with texts of Scripture and highly colored signs, but, in the words of one of the bartenders, it was found that "rum and religion would not mix."

# HERMIT'S HOME AN OIL RIG

## Disconcerted When Found-Successful Hunter for Pearls-Family Seeks Him.

Marion, Ind.-Living the life of a hermit in an abandoned oil rig in the woods three miles from Marion is John Swanson, an old man, who exhibited much concern when his abode was discovered.

He refused to say where he came from but said domestic trouble had caused him to seek a life of seclusion. He said he had been living in the oil derrick for about a year and had succeeded in evading every one until the oil operators chanced to call at an unexpected moment. He said he had never built a fire at night for fear of attracting attention.

He is engaged in pearl hunting along the river, and exhibited a large collection of much value. He said he had been sending them to a New York dealer and had a shipment ready to forward. Members of his family, he said, were searching for him, but he did not desire that they find him.

# TO RAZE HISTORIC HOME.

## Residence of Bonaparte Will Be Torn Down-Stands Just North of Trenton.

Trenton, N. J.-The Lalor homestead on Bow hill, just north of this city, will soon be torn down to make room for the growth of Trenton. The house was built just after the revolution by Barnt de Klyn, a descendant

of French nobility. Joseph Bonaparte, then living in Bordentown, leased the place from De Klyn and established there Miss Annette Savage, a beautiful Philadelphia woman, with whom he had fallen in love while buying goods from her in a little notion store kept by her mother. Annette Savage's first child was killed in the house by the falling of a flower pot. The second grew into a lovely girl, and on her account Na-

coleon III. legalized the marriage. On one of the window panes of the old house is the inscription, "God is love," evidently etched by a diamond.

Walking Poor. An American circus is stranded at Grenoble, France, and the walking between there and home is reported to be

# REVIVES LOST ART.

## POTTERY-MAKING, 2,000 YEARS AGO. BROUGHT TO LIGHT.

Harry Firth, an Englishman, Duplicates the Celebrated Blackware of the Etruscans-Hits on Scheme by Roundabout Route.

London.—Examples of an art lost more than 20 centuries and only rediscovered by accident, have been exhibited recently by Harry Firth, of Kirkby Lonsdale, England. The work dupilcates the famous blackware of the Etruscans.

Mr. Firth spent the first 40 years of his life tending flowers for the squire, of Kirkby Lonsdale. He was a common gardener, earning in the neighborhood! of six dollars a week. In 1890 he became interested in wood carving. through the instrumentality of the Arts and Crafts Guild, an institution originally started by Watts, Ruskin, Morris and a number of other then youthfully enthusiastic artists, but now supported almost wholly by the various county councils of England under the patronage of the queen and almost all the royal family. In 1890 the guild was introduced into Kirkby Lonsdale. and Mr. Firth, his little daughter, his wife and other members of his family joined the student ranks. He took up wood carving, the daughter worked in color, his wife embossed leather, and all three have made a wonderful success.

Mr. Firth speedily found that his designs were difficult of execution, however, as he had no model with which to guide the movements of his chisei. Hence he was quick to avail himself of a suggestion that he model his work in clay, afterward copying the design in wood. For a year or more he laboriously trudged seven weary miles with loads of plastic models to a neighboring brick kiln, where they were baked hard. By degrees his interest in clay overshadowed his interest in wood, and instead of molding mere designs for his chisel to copy he tried his 'prentice hand at original work in pottery. The same success which had met his wood carving followed him in this, and the same energy which had carried his models seven miles after a hard day's work in the garden carried his pots and his vases over

the same tedious road to the brick kiln. A few months, however, and he saw that he had either reached his limit as a creative potter or he must devise new means for firing his clay. This he did by building for himself a small oven in a little deserted shed whose owner ailowed him its use free of charge. It was in this shed and in a little testing box at the apex of his home-made oven that Harry Firth, the gardener, finally wrested a secret of the ages and made, once more the famous black Etruscan ware, sung by Juvenal. Perseus and Horace and sought unsuccessfully by the leading potters all through the Christian

To the unsophisticated gardener, playing at pottery, the discovery meant nothing more than the loss of so much clay and so much labor. The rare specimens of newly found art he placed tearfully away in a corner where rubbish piled up and dust covered them. There they stood for weeks till an inquisitive clergyman with an eye for the artistic and an interest in the potter began routing about in the shed and unearthed them. He was enthusiastic, and quickly set Firth's heart beating wildly with his tales of dead arms and his praise of

the discarded treasures. Then came the real labor, for though made once, it was not easy to reproduce an accident, and it took nine months of daily work before Firth again managed

to duplicate the ancient work. Mr. Firth has ceased gardening and now makes his living entirely by his art. but it is not much of a living, for he has all the artist's objection to making money by his work. He charges harely enough to cover the cost of his labor, and lives laborious days, where a less squeamish man might have luxury and the plaudits of thousands.

# WINS SWEETHEART BY RUSE

## Parent Raves Behind Bars-Daughter Sees Man of Choice-Father Is Liberated.

St. Paul, Minn.—A story of how "love will find a way" has developed in the probate court. William L. Wallace, of this city, was arraigned to be examined as to his sanity. The physicians said he was perfectly sane and then the story came out.

The old man was arrested on complaint of his daughter. A young man called on the daughter, Miss Virginia Wallace, at her home. The father answered the knock and promptly ejected the young man. The young swain then went to the back door and while the father was walking up and down the sidewalk in front of the house the daughter is alleged to have let the young gallant into the house through a rear window.

The father discovered this and tried to get back into the house. He gave vent to some strong language and pounded on the door, when the daughter telephoned to the Margaret street police station, saying her home was besieged by a crazy man. When the police arrived they found the irate parent storming about and promptly took him away without knowing who

#### "Just This Way." Doubtless there are hundreds of old men sitting on the street corners of Tokio whittling pine sticks who think they could have done better than

#### Tiresome. Prof. Metchnikoff says one may live 180 years on a sour milk diet. But what's the use?

Komura in negotiating peace terms.

# DECLINE OF GREAT RIVER.

#### Water Level of the Niger, in Africa. Is Slowly and Steadily Sinking.

The Niger is the third largest river in Africa and one of the great rivers of the world. If a channel as long as the Niger were to be cut across our continent in the latitude of New York it would make an island of the northern part of North America. But the Niger is now showing more evidences of the desiccation that is gradually spreading over large parts of Africa than any other large river, for it is the run off for the waters of a great part of the western Sudan, where the decline in rainfall has been uncommonly marked for a considerable period.

The British have made several futile attempts in the last two years to reach Jebba from the Niger mouth with their steamer Nupe. Ten years ago this point, where the railroad from Lagos is to cross the Niger, was accessible at all stages of water to light draft steamers. At Timbuktu, some 1,200 miles up the river, the French report that the water level is slowly but steadily sinking. This is very apparent among the islands that divide the Niger into many channels, from 100 to 300 miles above Timbuktu. As long as we have had knowledge of these islands some of them have been completely covered at high water so that the native inhabitants have been compelled to make an annual sojourn on the mainland till the fall of the floods. Not a single island is now abandoned, for none of them is covered even when the flood is unusually

high. The French officers Toutee, Hourst and Fourneau proved the possibility of carrying supplies from the mouth of the Niger to the upper river in spite of the long stretch of rapids about 500 miles above the delta. Hundreds of tons of freight have thus been distributed from the ocean among the French posts in the western Sudan, and as late as last year some supplies were still forwarded by this route; but this highway to inner Africa, hailed as a great discovery when the French declared its practicability, has been abandoned this year. The water is so low in the rapids that no boat can get over the rocks.

Fortunately for the French they have completed their railroad from the Senegal river to the upper Niger, giving a new inlet to their Sudanese possessions. But geographers are wondering how long the drying up of Africa is to continue. It has been marked within the last ten years by the disappearance of Lake Ngami, in the south, and the diminution of Lake Chad, 2,400 miles further north, to a fourth of its former size, and there are as yet no signs that the great decrease in rainfall is merely a temporary phenomenon.

# WOMEN'S NEW EMPLOYMENT Hired to Run Elevators in Buildings

#### Devoted to Female Interests.

Women always seem to be able to establish some new kind of work. Now Boston has in several buildings devoted to women's interests or largely natronized by women, girls employed to run the elevators. The idea was introduced by the Women's Educational and Industrial union, and the Young Women's Christian association soon followed.

"Except for one janitor." said the superintendent of the latter institution, "we are all women around here, and to have two or three boys about to run the elevator was an unmitigated nuisance. So we discharged the boys and nired the girls. Since then we have been much more comfortable." The New England hospital for women in Roxbury has also introduced elevator giris, and some of the millinery and women's furnishing goods stores in Poston are taking up the idea.

The girls are all doing the work to the complete satisfaction of their employers and have at the same time suggested a solution for the perplexing question of what to do with a girl who has to earn money at an early age. She can run an elevator until she is old enough or has acquired the necessary training for something better. Formerly she might have been a cash girl, but now various mechanical devices are taking the place of the cash girl and leaving her without employment. Several of the girls employed as elevator girls in the buildings just mentioned are studying for better positions and one is glad to earn three dollars a week while her eyes are recovering from the strain of her high school COURSE.

To run an elevator is not difficult work, but requires careful attention to business. For this reason, according to the testimony of their employers, girls do it better than boys. They are more conscientious and trustworthy. The girls seem to enjoy the work, and though the hours are long the work is not tiring. At the Young Women's Christian association the elevator girl goes on duty at seven o'clock and works till 12. Then she has two hours' rest. In the afternoon she works from two o'clock until five, when she has an intermission of half an hour, resuming work at 5:30 o'clock and continuing till seven.

The Statue to the Pilgrims. On Plymouth hill stands the imposing statue of the Pilgrims. Its base in granite and supports a seated figure at cach of the four corners, with eyes searching the surrounding country, while a woman's figure crowns the top. On the pedestal is inscribed the name of every man, woman and child that came over in the Mayflower.-St. Nicholas.

# BLUEBERRY BARKENS

#### MAINE INDUSTRY THAT IS PROV-ING VERY PROFITABLE.

### Large Tracts of Land in That State Devoted to Culture of the Fruit-Details of the Business.

Prof. W. M. Munson, of the University of Maine, contributes to the report issued by Edgar E. Ring, forest commissioner for Maine, an instructive paper on "Blueberry Culture." In some parts of Maine, particularly in Washington county, the management of lands that have been deforested and that would be worthless for general agricultural purposes, has been systematized and the canning of blueberries has become an important industrial operation. Appended below are liberal extracts from the professor's interesting sketch:

The land devoted to the blueberry industry in Maine lies mostly in Washington county, where there are about 150,000 acres known as the "blueberry barrens." This land lies chiefly in the townships of Cherryfield, Columbia, Debois, Beddington, Harrington, Jonesboro and Nos. 18 and 19. Recently a canning factory has been established at Vanceboro for the utilization of the fruit in the northern part of the county. Much of this land was burned over by the Indians before the colonial period, and since the timber was removed from the remainder; it, too, has repeatedly been burned to keep down the growth of birches, alders, etc., and to facilitate the harvesting of the fruit.

About 40,000 acres of the barrens belong to William Freeman, of Cherryfield, who may properly be regarded as the pioneer in the blueberry industry of America. After long and bitter litigation he proved beyond question his right to charge royalty for all fruit gathered on his lands, and established a systematic method of treatment. which is applicable, under most conditions, everywhere. The method is somewhat as follows:

The land is divided into several tracts, each of which is leased to some responsible party, who assumes the whole care of burning, keeping off trespassers, harvesting and marketing the fruit. The owner receives as rental one-half cent. per quart .for all the fruit gathered.

The pickers receive from one and a half to three cents per quart; those who lease the land and haul the fruit to the canning factory, or to the station for shipment, one-half of one per cent. per quart-the rate being determined, in accordance with the market values, by the firm which handles the product. The fruit is all canned or shipped by one firm, which keeps a record of the amount as it is brought in and pays royalty to the owner. Every year a certain section of each "lease" hurned over

The financial importance of the blueberry industry is very difficult even to estimate at the present time. In Maine the canning of blueberries is largely in the hands of a few leading packers. The largest of these factories has a daily capacity of 700 bushels and the average annual output is 8,300 cases of two dozen cans each, representing 6.250 bushels of fresh fruit. The average price per case for the canned fruit is \$1.90. In other words, the value of the annual product of this one factory is not far from \$15,000

The number of hands employed in the various factories would aggregate about 100, but including the pickers there are from 1,000 to 2,000 men, women and children employed in the blueberry packing industry during the canning season. About \$30,000 are distributed among the pickers each year.

The total canned product of the "blueberry barrens" in 1899 was about 50,000 cases, and the price per case was \$2.20, making the value of the blueberry crop in this one section considerably more than \$100,000. Some seasons the value of the crop will be more than this, some seasons less.

Brain Exercise Lengthens Life. According to the London Evening News some remarkable statements as to the effect of brain exercise on the duration of life were made by a Dr. Duke in a case that came before Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady recently. "Onethird of the laborers in rural districts die from softening of the brain," said the doctor. "The cause of the disease is lack of brain exercise. The intellect of the rural laborer rusts rather than wears out, and when he attains the age of 65 or 70 he usually dies of apoplexy or something of that kind." In support of his theory the doctor said that judges, whose thinking capacity was continually employed, invariably lived longer than the average laborer.

## Naturally. The guide, who was taking a party of American excursionists through the holy

land, called a halt. "Here," he said, "is the place where Lot's wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt."

"I don't see no evidences of her," oblected the tail, slender Missourian with the chin beard, looking around searchingly.

"The gentleman will remember," rejoined the guide, "that the incident took place thousands of years ago, and there have been many hard rain storms since then."—Chicago Tribune.

#### Apprehensive. "You don't get sleep enough," said the physician. "You ought to take a nap every afternoon."

"I couldn't think of it," replied the man who stays up late. "It's hard enough for me to wake up once a day." -Washington Star.

## GOLD IN CHINESE CASH.

#### The Discovery Causes a Great Demand for the Coins in This Country.

A year or two ago certain prominent. interests in New York, who were largely concerned in the copper metal business, came into possession of a small consignment of Chinese copper coins, known as cash pieces, the familiar round coin with a square hole in the center. Something prompted one of the asayers connected with these persons to make an assay of some of the coins, and to his astonishment they were found tocontain a considerable amount of gold... This was due, says the Brooklyn Eagle, to the imperfect knowledge of the Chinese smelters as to how to separate the gold from the copper, and for cen-' turies the copper coins that have been in circulation throughout the orient supposedly worth their copper values only in reality were worth materially more. Naturally, a scheme was formed to buy. up and secure as many of these old coins; as possible, remelt them and separate the more valuable metal from the cop-

per. For months China has been an enormous buyer of copper in the United States. The trade attributed this demand' to requirements arising out of the eastern war, as it was believed that China was engaged in manufacturing some lines of material for either the Japanese or Russians. Recently, however, it has: been learned that the bulk of its copper imports was intended for new copper coinage by reason of the rapid disappearance of the old copper coin. It has become known that within a very short time millions and millions of these coins have been taken out of circulation. In February, it is reported that such coins to the amount of 20,000,000. pieces a month were being shipped from. Haubchau to Shanghai and that the rate of such shipments was rapidly increasing. ~

No one except the shippers of these coins can of course form any idea of the number that has been picked up during the past year or more, as naturally they' have been very secretive about their work, first because they did not want. others to learn of their new found gold mine, and, secondly, because it is understood that the shipment of coin in thismanner from China is illegal and somebody might get into trouble if the business came to the knowledge of the authorities. But in spite of the law, it is very apparent that somebody has been after the Chinese coin and it does not: require much imagination to connect the New York copper men with their disappearance.

# DALNY USEFUL TO JAPANESE

## The City But Little Damaged by the Tide of War and in Good Shape.

The streets of Dainy are much better paved than those of Washington were fore the war, and most of them not. only have good sidewalks, but are hordered by rows of recently planted shade trees, which, if properly cared for, will ultimately add very much to the attractiveness of the city and the com-

fort of its inhabitants, says the Outlook. The railway station, the administration building, and a third or more of the dwelling-houses have been wholly or partly destroyed by fire; but enough remains to show that, in this part of the city alone, the Russians must have spent millions of rubles legitimately. besides wasting hundreds of thousands more in showy and unnecessary ornamentation. The streets, gutters and sidewalks were admirably planned and honestly made: but the houses, with their endlessly varied and often eccentric architecture, look as if they had been erected for the purpose of making. the utmost possible show.

In the course of our long afternoon's walk I was surprised to find that so much of the city remained intact. The splendid piers were uninjured; the big electric light plant and the machine shops were in working order; the dry dock needed nothing but new gates; andin the commercial quarter of the city I could see no traces whatever of destruction or damage. Perhaps the Russians left the place so hurriedly after the battle of Nanshantkat they had notime to destroy their improvements: or perhaps they hoped that Gen. Knropatkin would drive the enemy back and reoccupy the city; but in either event they erred. The piers, the dry dock, the machine shops and the electric light plant have been of inestimable use tothe Japanese.

#### Town of Surprises. "Johannesburg as a town surprises.

and disappoints." Writes a South African traveler. "It has been put up in a. hurry and is mostly built of corrugated. iron. There are finished buildings. mostly in stucco, and innumerableshanties. There are wide streets, but they are all dusty. Commissioner street is the main artery for business. It is. there that, in imitation of America. skyscrapers have been built, which domineer over the town more than the old fort does. Sunday in Johannesburg is honored in the breach and not in theobservance. Johannesburg is a voung thing yet, not out of its teens, but it. apes the manners of centuries."

Destroyed by Insects. Dr. A. D. Hopkins, in charge of the forest insect investigations, department of agriculture, in a recent lecture, said that the average annual loss from insect work on forest trees and their crude and finished products, amounts to at least \$100,000.000.

# Waried Scenery.

New Zealand's scenery is so beautiful and so varied that it has been termed a combination of Switzerland. couthern France, Norway, the Tyrol and north Italy.

# L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS

Rot très sénantes en Lexistans et dans tous les Etats du Sade Se publishté offre dons au commerce des avantages exceptionneus. Prix de l'abonneusent sur l'auré : Bettieve Oxotidienne U2.05 Edition hebdomsdaire 25.33.