**THE BRITISH BATTLESHIP BELLEPHON.**

One of Great Britain's latest Dreadnoughts. Of this type the British navy, since the launching of the Colossus a few days ago, has nine afloat, more than twice as many as any other nation.

The Dreadnoughts are fitted with eight 12-inch guns, and each and travelling at 20 knots, Great Britain expects to be the possessor two years from now of sixteen Dreadnoughts and cruisers of the Inflexible type. The ships of Great Britain have demonstrated that they can turn out battleships at a high rate of speed, for the Colonies were on the ways only nine months.

The reason for England's haste in the construction of Dreadnoughts is understood when it is pointed out that Germany expects to have seventeen vessels of the Dreadnought and the Inflexible classes in 1912. Emperor William's ships last year demonstrated what they could do. It was reduced a record year in naval construction. Germany is the possessor of four available Dreadnoughts, the sister ships, Nivose, Westfalik, Helvetic and Paris, all of 18,500 tons displacement and armed with twelve 12-inch guns. Five large battleships took the water last year. Among these were the 20,000-ton battleships Strasbourg, Thornlands and Helgoland. These will be the shot of the German Dreadnoughts to be armed with 15-inch guns. They will each carry twelve of these mighty guns of 34 tons, and in ordnance, therefore, will be superior to any of the fighting craft of Great Britain.

The armored cruiser Vater der Taen, a vessel of 18,700 tons, or 800 tons less than the first Dreadnought, and a sister ship known as "C," were also put overboard by Germany last year. These vessels will be able to travel at 21 knots, one knot slower than the Dreadnoughts, and will carry two 12-inch guns in place of the fourteen, eight 12-inch ones. Germany also completed last year two small cruisers of 2,200 tons, capable of travelling 27 to 28 knots, and twelve destroyers.

Three more battleships of the style of the Helgoland, except that they will have turbine engines, were laid down last year. They will be known as the Europa, Prinzlich, the Ernst von Bodenbrand and the Ernst von Helmhall. An armored cruiser styled "H," probably similar to the Vater der Taen and the "C." Two more small cruisers, twelve destroyers and some submarines are also on the ways of German yards for Emperor William's fleet.

The progress which Germany is making in naval strength is illustrated when it is pointed out that one year ago that country had no Dreadnoughts afloat and could muster only fourteen battleships capable of fighting effectively at modern ranges, as against twenty-five flying the United States flag and forty-nine British ships. When all of the warships now under construction are completed Germany will exceed the United States the second place in tonnage. With the addition of the two battleships which may be voted this year by Congress, we may be assured.

France, while active in launching big ships, having six new vessels of 18,000 tons each, has been slow in respect to the building of Dreadnoughts. These vessels are not classed as Dreadnoughts, as they carry only four 12-inch guns, they main batteries being of guns of only 9.4 inches. The British, however, intends to get on the band wagon and plans to start two 22,000-ton Dreadnoughts at once. They will go to the present limit in number of French men, being equipped with twelve each.

Russia is also coming to after the knockout blow in the Strait of Tiberius, and has begun the building of four Dreadnoughts. They are to be known as the Dagur, the Petropavlovsk, the German and the Poltava. It is expected that they will be 23,000-ton ships and carry their twelve 12-inch guns at a speed of 25 knots. The German, a battleship of 18,700 tons, has also been added to the Japan fleet recently.

Italy is not falling behind, for that country has begun the construction of four

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**AN ANTIQUATED BATTLESHIP.**

The Texas, which cost the United States $4,300,000, and was one of the victorious first at Santiago, is so far behind the times that with twenty-five other well known vessels of the navy it is to be discarded from the line. It is only two-sevenths the size of the Florida.