### RIVAL NAVIES

#### A Comparison Between Spain's and Our Ships

THE DON'S FINE VESSELS

MORE DANGEROUS ENEMY THAN GENERALLY SUPPOSED

Mates for Our Own Cruisers-The Gunboat Fleets-Battle Ships and Other War Craft

Special Correspondence to The Herald. WASHINGTON, March 23.-What would happen at sea if the United States and Spain went to war? In spite of all the new interests which crop up with the new administration, this is a question that people here are asking. It is a question that has been presented by almost every inquiring mind wherever patriotism exists in the United States.

ish navy is the Belayo, of 10,000 tons burden, which was constructed by French shipbuilders about ten years ago. She represents, despite the fact of her age, the most formidable advancement along the line of naval warfare accomplished during the period that has elapsed since the rebellion. Her ram is of the most powerful variety, and her batery consists of two 12.5 inch rapid firing guns, which practically constitute her broadside. Then there is the secondary battery, consisting of a dozen smaller guns and six torpedo tubes.

It will thus be seen that there is no

It will thus be seen that there is no vessel in the United States navy more powerful than the Pelayo, so far as armament is concerned. Now how about her armor? She is provided with a steel water-line belt of a maximum thickness of 18 inches, and this renders her as impregnable as modern skill can make a warship, so far as resistance to projectiles that are fired at her is concerned. Not only is she thus armored and armed, but her condition is thoroughly up to date, as only two months ago she was repaired and retubed at the Ferrel navy yard. She has a speed of about 16 knots an hour, and in this respect alone is slightly inferior to the biggest craft in our navy.

The battleship Iowa, which has her It will thus be seen that there is no

The battleship Iowa, which has her trial trip next month, will be the one vessel in the United States navy which

equal of the armored cruisers of Spain.

The only prototypes of these vessels are found in the British navy.

There is one point of advantage we have over Spain, and that is in our rams and monitors. While every modern warship is possessed of a ram, we have in the Katahdin a vessel which is built for nothing else but sinking her prow into an unlucky foe. The Katahdin is not a very big vessel, as warships go, for her tonnage is only 2200, but she could knock the spots off the best warship that was ever constructed, armored or unarmored, if only given half a chance. Then there are our five double turreted monitors, of which the most powerful is the unlucky Puritan of 8000 isns. Just how efficient a boat the Puritan is can hardly be said at present, for it was only a few days ago that she came lagging into port, the end of her hawser stretching away from the stern of the cruiser Columbia. When the Puritan went down to Charlestown to run the blockade she was well-nigh swamped in the great storm, and this fact, together with her latest accident, makes naval authorities rather hesitant about fixing the extent of her powers.

Besides the Puritan, there are the Terror, the Amphitrite, the Monadnock

fixing the extent of her powers.

Besides the Puritan, there are the Terror, the Amphitrite, the Monadnock and the Miantonomah. They are about half the Puritan's size. Their armor is eleven inches thick and their guns are ten-inch pieces. Of course the monitor is pre-eminently a coast defender. In smooth water and for harbor work this craft is unsurpassed. The monitor is a very different vessel than when Mr. will come near to equaling the Pelayo. The only vessels which now fly our flag which can be considered fit antagonists for Spain's banner warship are the battleships Indiana and Massachusetts, the "arnament of each of which consists of four 13-inch, eight 8-inch and four 6-inch guns. These ships are of 11,000 tons displacement, as compared with the Pelayo's 10,000, but in reality the

Mild Relaxations of Washington Society

THE SPRINGTIME DIVERSIONS

NOTHING MORE EXCITING THAN LITERARY DISSIPATIONS

The Smart Set Is Recuperating From the Effects of the Season's Festivities--Wheel Devotees

Special Correspondence to The Herald. WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20 .-Spring is here. The air begins to show a southern glow; there is the sweet, earthy smell of growing things in the scented atmosphere; up in the White House grounds the yellow crocuses are plossoming and the purple pansies are lifting their heads to the warm sunlight; dandelions are nodding in the breeze: a soft summer haze clothes the

well-known musicians of Mendelssohn's incidental music to this play.

Last week some of Washington's best talent, lyric and comic, was absorbed in the production of the comic opera, "Priscilla," given under the auspices of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the proceeds to be used for the benefit of the Continental hall. The affair was presented in the shape of afternoon matiness at the Columbia theater, and attracted large audiences. The patronesses included Mrs. Hobart, Mrs. Adiai Stevenson, Mrs. U. S. Grant, Mrs. Letter and Mrs. Sprague.

Parior lectures are also in vogue as a favorite Lenten pastime. Mrs. Erving Winslow of Boston is giving a series of Shakespearean readings in the drawing rooms of fashionable Massachusetts avenue homes.

Up at the National museum a course of free public lectures is running through this month and next, each Saturday afternoon, well-known scientists having volunteered their services for the occasion.

Besides all these literary diversions, there are quiet denoing parties among

Besides all these literary diversions, there are quiet dancing parties among the younger set, confined to the "small and early" functions, in accordance with Lenten restrictions.

The warm, sunshing weather has enticed devotees of the wheel to enjoy a spin along the avenues, and no city has more delightful streets for cycling than Washington. The roads leading into the suburbs to the Soldiers' Home and Cabin John Bridge are exceedingly popular and every afternoon scores of cyclers of both sexes from the social set, in notice costs. in natty costumes, present a picture que scene as they spin along the smoo'h bou-levards on their steel steeds. The Brit-ish ambassador and Lady Paurcefote the Austrian minister and Baroness

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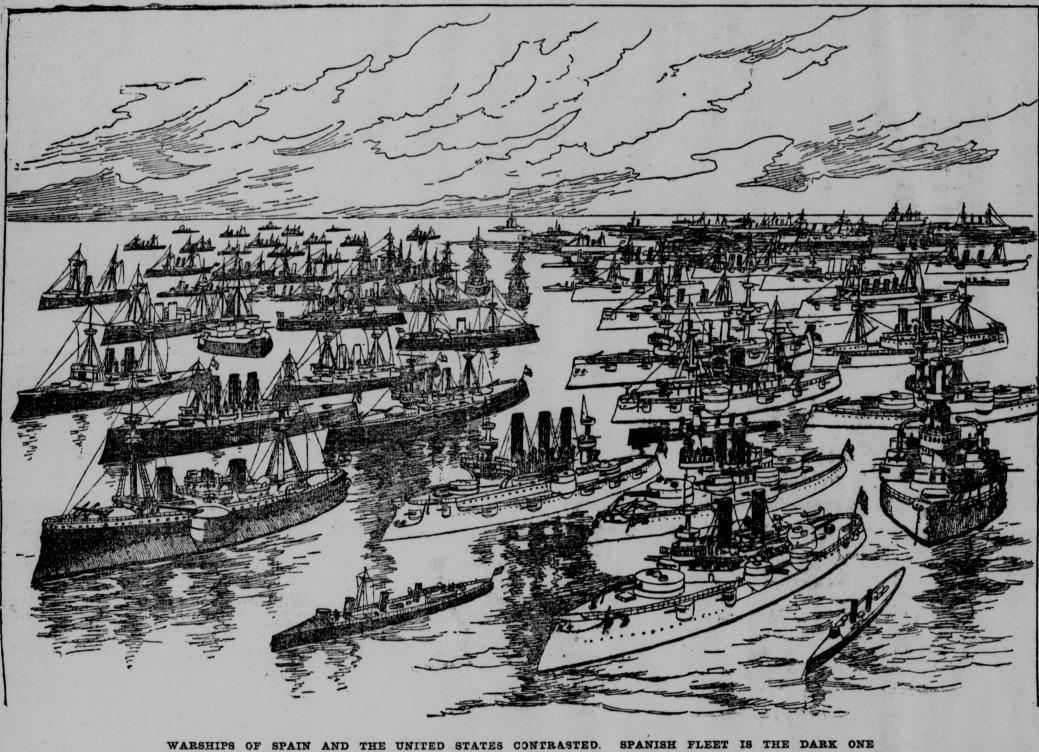
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that the Spanish naval force is insignifiaffairs. Here are the official figures and this is the first time they have been correctly stated:

UNITED STATES. UNITED ST
Armored ships......
Guns of the same H. G..
Guns of the same S. B...
Unarmored ships....
Guns of the same H. G..
Guns of the same S. B.. Jnarmored gunboats..... Funs of the same H. G.... Dispatch vessels.

Guns of same.

Training receiving and store ships,

transports, tugs, etc. Topedo boats, No. 1....
Torpedo boats, No. 2...

SPAIN. | SPAIN. | 1 | Armored ships. | 11 | Guns of the same H. G. | 154 | Guns of the same S. B. | 168 | Unarmored ships. | 32 | Gnus of the same H. G. | 146 | Guns of the same S. B. | 169 | Armored suphoats | 169 | Armored suphoats | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 169 | Armored gunboats. Guns of same H. G. Guns of same S. B. Unarmored gunboats..... Guns of same H. G..... Guns of the same S. B... Dispatch vessels..... Guns of same H. G... Guns of same S. B... Training, receiving and store ships, transports, tugs, etc.

Guns of same.

Torpedo boats, No. 1.

Torpedo boats, No. 2.

Of these guns, ten are from 40 to 80 tons; 110 from 20 to 40; 286 from 4 to 20; 554 under

The letters "H. G." which appear in The letters "H. G." which appear in the foregoing tables signify heavy guns or primary batteries. The letters "S. B.," similarly mean secondary batteries or light guns. Torpedo boats No. 1 include torpedo boats and torpedo catchers over 100 feet in length. Torpedo boats No. 2 include torpedo boats under 100 feet in length.

100 feet in length. Leaving aside the question of jingo-ism or the anti-war spirit, a careful survey of these facts shows beyond per-adventure that it would be no one-sided adventure that it would be no one-sided affair, as many people are fond of observing, and it is highly probable that the United States navy would be lessened by several vessels before the Spaniard was forced to acknowledge the supremacy of the Stars and Stripes. In other words, the officers and men who wear Uncle Sam's livery on the ocean would get a tasts of geunine fighting and plenty of opportunity for larger uses.

service than either of our own battle-ships. Both the Oregon and Indiana

We are very proud of the cruiser New York, and indeed she is a fine ship, as every one can testify who has been aboard of her. She has her prototype in the Spanish navy in the armored cruiser Emperator Carlos V. While very stronly resembling the New York, she is perhaps a triffel larger her to you she is perhaps a trifle larger, her tonnage being 9100 to the New York's 8500. She carries two 11-inch guns in barbettes 10 with a powerful secondary battery of rapid-fire 6 and 3-pounder guns. Her protective deck is six inches thick and her sides are partially plated with 2-inch steel. She is the newest of the Spanish fleet of any considerable size.

Not only have we a fair match for the Carlos in the New York, but the Brook-lyn will keep her hands full. In tonnage she is a little more than the equal of the Carlos, her total being 9500. The Brook-lyn is a better ship than the New York, and that is saying a good deal. She carries eight 8-inch and twelve 5-inch guns, to the New York's six 8-inch and twelve 4-inch. While the Brooklyn's armor is a trifle inferior to the New York's, it is infinitely more modern. However, the infinitely more modern. However, the United States naval officers, comparing the fighting strength of the Carlos, the Brooklyn and the New York, take into consideration what seems to most people only superstition—the Brooklyn's bad luck. This latter vessel is forever meeting with some accident, and the meeting with some accident, and the officers say that if she ever did get into a real fight she would be sure to become disabled at a critical moment.

There is in the Spanish navy also one There is in the Spanish navy also one of the finest types of the modern armored cruiser. It is the Infanta Maria Theresa. She represents a fleet of eight cruisers of her own sort which fly the Spanish flag. Her armament consists of two 9.45-inch guns in barbettes and ten 5.5-inch rapid firers. For protection she has a belt at the water line twelve inches thick along the central body of inches thick along the central body of the ship. Twelve inches is the thick-ness of the barbette armor. The nearest approach that we have to this class of war vessel is found in the Maine or Texas, whose tonnage is 7000 and 6500, rethe supremacy of the Stars and Stripes, no other words, the officers and men who wear Uncle Sam's livery on the cean would get a tasts of geunine fighting and plenty of opportunity for larger isses.

The most formidable ship in the Span
Texas, whose tonnage is 7000 and 6500, 7einch gain has four 10inch guns in turrets ten inches thick, and the latter has two 12-inch guns in turrets ten inches thick. Both have six 6-inch guns in their main batteries.

These are the second-class battleships, but to tell the truth they are not the tigue.

unquestioned.

If worst came to worst and our warhave the thickest of side armor, but it is only in a partial belt which protects the vitals of the ship. It is of a maximum thickness of 18 inches and is comitive to make unarmored cruisers out of imum thickness of 18 inches and is composed of Harveyized nickel steel. The bore of the guns of these battleships is about 13 inches in diameter. The guns are mounted within 17-inch stel turrets and five inches of steel protects the 6-inch battery.

We are very proud of the cruiser New York and indeed she is a five ship as in a steel protect that the steel protects the five ship as in a steel protect that the steel is nothing in the Spanish navy or our own either for that matter, which could touch them. Spain has one big line upon which it could draw—the Compania Transatlantic—whose thirty-two steamers have a gross tonnage of more than 100 000.

defeat Spain in a sea contest would it will be seen from the facts given, be a task that differs widely from child's play. If Uncle Sam and Don Spaniard really come to blows, it will be a duel, of the combatants in which will

X-Ray on Jonah and the Whale Among all the splendid chariots that will appear at the coming carnival in Paris, the X-ray charlot will be the most curlous. It will appear in the form of an angry see, with a big whale moving along on the surface and an electrician perched upon a rock behind. The scientific man will point his apparatus at the perched upon a rock bening. The scientific man will point his apparatus at the whale in order to discover what may be inside the monster. When the lights are well turned on, everybody will be able to see the interior, a handsomely furnished apartment, in which Jonah, seated at a table will dripk champagne in l at a table, will drink champagne in ompany with a mermaid. She engre recession will be about twice as long sthe one of last year. The auto-mobile pariot, which is the biggest of all, and which pasteboard horses are to rejude at having nothing to do was found.

New York Sun Human Limitations

joice at having nothing to do, was found

o be too large for the machinery and t will be moved along by concealed eal horses, with real animals above.—

If you have not courage nor heart enough to break away from the fetters of the earth and take up the sensual bed of it and walk; if you say that you are bound to win this thing and become the other thing, and that the wishes of your friends and the interests of your family, and the bias of your genius, and the expectations of your college, and all the rest of the bow-wow-wow of the wild dog-world must be attended to, whether you like it or no—then, at least, whether you like it or no—then, at least, give up talking about being free or independent creatures; recognize yourselves for sleves in whom the thoughts are put in ward with their bodies, and their hearts manacled with their hands; and then, at least, for shame, if you notice to believe that ever there were refuse to believe that ever there were men who gave their souls to God-know

A great many persons have an idea | Pelayo is slightly heavier in point of | monitors represent, their usefulness is | Virginia hills in the distance, and the wichery of early spring makes one wish to linger long in the parks or sit on the benches in the little squares and circles to which the avenues and streets converge. The odorous perfume of jasmine fills the air, and the flush of delicate, pink blossoms glows every-

LENTEN RELAXATIONS. Over the social life of the national a few days before returning to their home capital has fallen the quietude of Lent. the season of meditation and withdrawal from worldly dissipation. There are numberless quiet attractions appropriate to the season. Just now it is the proper thing for the smart set to atproper thing for the smart set to attend the concerts given by the Marine band at their barracks every Monday afternoon from 2 to 3. This is an extremely pleasant Lenten diversion at which debutantes and their friends are much in evidence. Another attraction for the ultra fashionableones who are just now resting in sackcloth and ashes are the delightful organ recitals by Mr. Theophile at St. John's, following the short afternoon service on Saturdays.

IDA TARBELL. Then there are any number of afternoon lectures and recitals, prominent mong which is the series given at the Washington club on Fridays at 5 oclock. The first, which occurred last week, was in the for of a bright, clever talk by Miss Ida Tarbell, who is well known through her connection with McClure's Magazine, to which she has contributed lives of Lincoln, Napoleon and Mme. Roland.

Three years Miss Tarbell lived in

Three years Miss Tarbell lived in Paris, that most fascinating capital in the world, and had the privilege of see-ing a side of it denied to the casual obing a side of it denied to the casual observer. She is an exceedingly bright, clever woman, with an eye for the picturesque and a keen sense of humor. Her talk—a tale of her life there as a student—was full of interest and charm for all those who know Paris through their visits or their reading.

OTHER DIVERSIONS. This week Mr. John Fox. jr., who is This week Mr. John Fox. jr., who is spending some time in Washington as the guest of his friend, Mr. Thomas Nelson Page, gave a reading from his novels, dealing with life in the southern mountains, and next Friday the final lecture of the series will be given by Mr. Bernard R. Green, who will tell the story of art in the congressional library building. illustrating his talk with building, illustrating his talk with

stereopticon views.

The proceeds of these lectures go to the scholarship fund of the Vassar Students' Aid society.

Besides this lecture course, a series of delichtful Shakespearean readings are

Greater fruition than has seed.

For every waiting human soul

Pray that this leaf of spotless white,
Whose clean space covers land and sea,
In all its issues infinite
Help for a better world may be. delightful Shakespearean readings are being given at the Washington club rooms on Monday afternoons at 4:15, by Miss Bingham. Her rendition of "Mid-summer Night's Dream" was further in-tensified by the beautiful production by

Hengelmuller are among the A large percentage of the smart social set are recuperating from the set are recuperating from the season's festivities and the inaugural ceremonies

at near-by resorts.

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Logan went down to Fortress Monroe last week, taking with them a large house party.

Ex-secretary of the Interior Francis and Mrs. Francis I it last week for Old Point Comfort, where they will spend

PERSONAL Mrs. F. W. Birney, president of the Mothers' congress, leaves this week for California, accompanied by her two lit-

le daughters.
Mrs. Lamont and family left jast week for Fortress Monroe, where they were joined later by Colonel Lamont and went on to Palm Beach Fla., to spend a

During the inaugural ceremonies Chas.

During the inaugural ceremonies Chas.

Dana Gibson and Richard Harding Davis made a flying visit to Washington in quest of material for an article, shortly to be published, descriptive of the official ceremonies. Both artist and writer were the guests of Thomas Nelson Page.

H. B. F.

THE LEAVES OF TIME

(1896-1897.)
The leaves of Time how swift they turn-Each year is as an arrow sped; Death catches one within his urn, Another comes rose-garlanded.

The written leaf has passed our power Either to alter or undo; And now we face the solemn hour Which ushers in the leaf that's new.

Though tender love and fond regret Checker for us the year that's past, Hope's shining promise beckons yet To vistas looming grand and vast. Let cypress drape the year which went Down the dark corridors of Time; While lilies wreathe the one unspent, Which heralds joys and dreams sublime.

The travel of the stars and sun Goes on in noiseless mystery; We see transcendent things begun, But not at all what yet shall be.

So strange these human annals are, So far they reach beyond our ken; The motion of the farthest star Is somehow with the sons of men.

Linked in a destiny unseen, But shaping as the leaves unroll, Greater fruition than has been For every waiting human soul

May war's red horrors fade and cease,
And human love have larger birth,
And may the thousand years of peace
Descend to hallow all the earth.
—Joel Benton in Harper's Weekly.