# THE EVENING STAR. SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 1897-24 PACES.



"WE FOUND OURSELVES IN THE MIDST OF AN ARMED ENEMY."

Deeds of Valor and Desperation Fifty Years Ago.

DEL

MOLINOS

18

Fitz John Porter Tells of the Attack on Santa Anna's Stronghold.

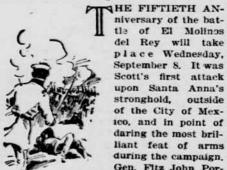
BRILLIANT, SANGUINARY CONFLICT

INCIDENTS OF HEROISM

September 8. It was

upon Santa Anna's

Written for The Evening Star



Gen. Fitz John Porter is the sole surviving officer of the attacking party. He was breveted captain for his gallantry at Molinos. Five days later, all his superior officers in the battery were killed in the attack on the gates of Mexico. The bravery of young Porter after his chiefs had fallen remains one of the proudest traditions of the American army. Here is his story of the battle, cold in his own language:

"I believe I am the last surviving officer of the battle of Melinos del Rey. We lost nine officers killed and forty-nine wounded, and these casualties fell principally upon two brigades and hatteries, and a picked storming party of five hundr

AN INTERESTING SKETCH Washington Commandery of Knights Templar is notable throughout the country for many remarkable characteristics. Its great age, now closely approaching the three-quarters of a century limit; its long, valorous and successful struggle for the old original uniform of Knights Templar the names illustrious in American Masonic annals which have been borne upon its rolls, and its location at the national capital, have all united to render the old organization famous. It is soon to fittingly celebrate a very uncommon event in Tem-plar history, the fiftieth anniversary of the knighting of one of its members. On the 10th day of September it will be half a century since the day when the lamented Benjamin B. French, then and for many years most eminent grand com- RAY
our six-pounders. These guns had a history. At the battle of Beuna Vista the Mexicans captured them from Taylor. They we recaptured them from Taylor. They we recaptured them. Capt. Drum was one of the first to enter the enemy's batteries at Contreras and he laid his hands upon wo six-pounders, which proved to be the mean Vista cannon. They were then assigned to us and proved very serviceable on occasions like Molinos, because we could well, for I remember distinctly battering the walls of the casile of Chapultepec while we were waiting the result of Maj. Wright's charge on the center. The batter wole extent well contested by that portion of the Werght's charge on the content. The batter wole well contested by that portion of the Werght's charge on the content of the batter wole well contested by that portion of the Werght's charge on the contest we set will be at Molinos lasted over two hours, and wence anounted to probably 10,000, while Gea, Worth's entire command engaged numbered only 3,000. Our loss was 116 killed and 671 wounded. mander, in the presence of a large gathering of old-time sir knights of the national capital, laid his sword upon the shoulder of James Grigg of Alexandria, and with three strokes created him a knight of the Chris-tian Order of Templars. Sir James Grigg was then in his twenty-fourth year, and the suns of fifty summen and the snows of almost as many winters have brought him well beyond the three-score and ten years of scriptural limit. But score and ten years of scriptural limit. But

A Gallant Flag Bearer.

"Santa Anna had ordered 4,000 cava:ry

under Gen. Alvarez to flank the left of the attacking column, but this was foiled by the bold advance of Maj. Sumner with four companies of mounted rifles and dragoons, 220 men all told. He formed his command within pistol shot of the Mexican walls, then ranged back and forth over the field, each time confronting the Mexican cavalry as they shifted position, and held Alvarez in check throughout the battle.

"The Mexican officers fought well. Capt. Mendez, whose gun was opposed to us when we entered the Mills, was killed by our carister. The commander of the bat-talion of national guards opposed to us, Col. Balderas, was killed. The flag bearer of his battalion, when almost dead, wrap-ped the colors about him, and at last gave them, saturated with his life's blood, to a them, saturated with his life's blood, to a comrade. Gen. Leon, who commanded the troops engaged in the hand-to-hand de-ferse of the Mills, was also killed. In fact, one of the best and bravest corps in Santa Anna's army was almost entirely destroyed. Besides, the Mexicans lost a field battery. We found the position un-tenable, and soon abandoned it. But we had rendered it unit for a second defense. A large number of small arms with gun and misket ammunition were brought off as we retreated, also three cannon. Over 800 prisoners were taken, and all of the oxtensive building used as a magazine was blown up, and the ammunition destroyed.

Stormers Safer Than the Stormed. "Molinos del Rey was a costly battle for

us, yet it taught us to believe that we has never transferred his membership from should win. We saw that the Mexicans old Washington Commandery. He is out were not disciplined. It was the begin- in the parades and reviews of old No. 1, and us, yet it taught us to believe that we were not disciplined. It was the begin-

lished until forty years later, silver grays are not so plentiful in their costers. It is an interesting fact that Congress, who was kniched in Washington Com-mandery in 1968, his always retained mem-kinghted in 1987, one is 1949, two in 1856 and many who have been on its rolls from bership. The body has one member, who have been on its rolls from thirty to thirty-five years. Its oldest sur-viving eminent commander is Eldred G. Data and many who have been on its rolls from thirty to thirty-five years. Its oldest sur-viving eminent commander is Eldred G. Data and the captain general is to commander has always possessed to commander has always possessed to commander has always possessed for the commander has always possessed to both the sentiments of its members. The commander has always possessed the commander has always possessed to both the sentiments of its members. The patriotic sentiments of its members and vice President are honorary members. The patriotic sentiments of its members word vice the great civil wit. "I wield this blade, under the Tempiar Beausant, as a Tempiar, but I will also wield it, should occasion ever call upon to do so, under the giorious stars and stripes of my country as a patriot, without stopping to ask who is right or who is wrong." **FIFTY YEARS AKNIGHT** Sir James Grigg, Oldest Member of Washington Commandery, K. T. B. B. FRENCH CONFERRED ORDERS IN '47 Golden Anniversary to Be Fittingly

NO CIGARETTE SMOKERS WANTED.

But the Worst in the Lot Got a Place After All. From the New York Tribune.

The boss inserted an advertisement in one of the newspapers for an office boy, and he had got down to the office half an hour earlier than usual to receive the

applicants for the place. There was a long line of them in the hallway in front of his office. He called the boys into his office one by one and subjected each of them to a searching ex-amination as to experience, fitness, etc. He invariably finished up with the ques-tion, "Do you smoke cigarettes?" The boys invariably declared they did not. "Never smoked one o' ther dope sticks in me life," declared the first boy called in. "Didn't, eh?" replied the "old man." "Let me see your fingers." They were stained a deep dirty yellow. He was told he was not wanted. "Dat's not cegarute stain, dat ain't," in-sisted the second boy. "Dat's paint off me fader's house." The excuse wouldn't work, and he was ushered out, as were several more young aspirants for office honors. Finally, a bright-eyed, red-headed young-ster entered and answered all the ques-tions propounded to him in a satisfactory way. subjected each of them to a searching ex-

"Now, my boy," came the final test, "tell me truthfully, do you smoke cigarettes?" "What's them? Those little paper cl-gars?" answered the youth. "Yes, exactly."

"Yes, exactly." "Nope: never drew one uf them inter me lungs in me life." "Let me see your hards." The boy poked out a chubby fist at him. The man examined it critically, but failed to detect the slightest evidence of tobacco stain.

stain. "You're engaged," he finally said. "Bully for you!" replied the youth. "So long; I'll be ter work in de morning." He then went out whistling, "There's Only One Girl in the World for Me," and joined his anxious comrades in the hallway. "Youse fellers can all go home," he said. "What's yer givn' us? Did yer get der job?" piped half a dozen voices. "Bet yer life." replied the urching

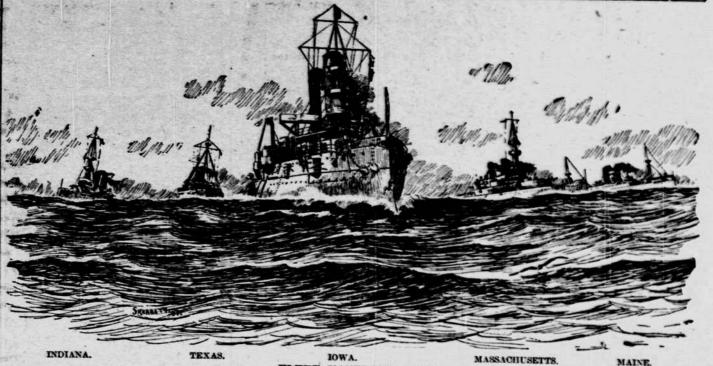
"Bet yer life," replied the urchin. There was a loud murmur of surprise from the crowd, and finally one of the

"How'd yer lo, Chimmy? De ol' man said dat he didn't want no dope-stick mok-ers, an' yer knows yer was de wursest dope fiend in der push." He is proud of the fact that he is the first member of Washington commandery, and one of the first in the United States to reach the half-century period of knight-hood. There are many Free Masons who have been members of the fraternity for a longer period than that, but the survival of a person who has taken the orders of Templarism for that lengthy period is ex-traordinary.

fiend in der push."" "Oh, youse fellers was so slow dat yer make me tired," pplied "Chimmie" in a disgusted tone of voice. "Course I hit de dope sticks, but dye per t'ink I, wusn't cute 'nough ter keep it from de ol' man?" "Guess yer had a pull, or yer couldn't have fooled his joblots." said one of the

Traordinary. Mr. Grigg was born in the ancient city of Alexandria, and has lived there all his life. He is a member of the Masonic lodge of which George Washington was once worshipful master, and was himself its pre-siding officer almost fifty years ago. He was also high priest of Lafayette Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Alexandria, in 1850. For many years he has been tyler of the lodge, sentinel of the chapter and cus-todian for the property of Old Dominion Commandery at Alexandria. He frequent-ly meets with the latter organization, but has never transferred his membership from nave tooled his joblots." said one of the youngsters. "Easiet t'ing in de world," answered "Chimmy." "As soon as I read his ad-vertisement in de polper I knew dat he wus agin dope-sticks, so what does I do but soak me fingers in turpentine all night, an' in de morning dey wus as clean as a new-born babe's."

LITERARY CULTURE OF THE CHILD.



FLEET MANEUVERS-1897.

IN BATTLE ARRAY

The September Evolutions of the North Atlantic Squadron.

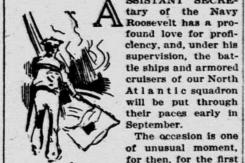
IMPORTANCE OF THE MANEUVERS

A Test of Efficiency for Ships, Ma-

chinery and Men.

THE PROGRAM ARRANGED

Written for The Evening Star.



The occasion is one of unusual moment, for then, for the first time, our line of battle will be maneuvered as it surely would be in case of actual hostilities. Heretofore we have had fleet drills, but with heterogeneous squadrons, composed of vessels of many types and impossible of concerted action in battle. This time the vessels will be of the armored type, and such as would really have to stand the brunt of battle, and upon whose force we should have to depend on

the day of trial. The modern battle ship is an immense aggregation of great powers, offensively and defensively; and it is not alone satisfactory that we should have such engines of destructive might, for their possibilites are imited to the directive genius of the men n charge, and from the captain down to the lowest officer that may succeed to the command it is needful that they should

know the ship to a nicety. The fleet will consist of the first-class battle ships Iowa, Indiana and Massachu-setts, the second-class battle ships Maine and Texas and the armored cruisers New

An Aid to the Imagination.

The magnitude of such a vessel may be

partly appreciated by the reader if he will

take an ordinary three-story dwelling, quad-

ruple its height and double its breadth.

and fill the interior with a score of eleva-

Differities to Be Over To begin with, each vessel has its urning radius, that is, an are in which

ed. All this constitutes the lolency of the craft, and fleet m at be timed to hurmonibe then I characteristics. Buch are so mentices that controut Bear

turning radius, that is, an are in which the may circle best; she has also a certain time period in which she can go ahead or astern from the full stop, or an estab-lished period in which she can come to a full stop, either ahead or astern, from full

Repeated drills and endless patience alone fan accomplish this end; and when that much is accomplished the fleet is a unit only in the matter of movement. The effi-ciency of gun fire and general handiness must follow as other steps, while the dis-position of the fleet to the best advantage is something resting with the commander inchief and the ready interpretation of his captains. Proficient individually, each something resting with the greater or spatiation of the fleet. She then becomes with of a regiment, so to speak, and moves part of a regiment, so to speak, and moves is captained or fleet. She then becomes and the fleet is dangerous alike to fiend or foe. She must keep a certain distance from her flanking or leading fel-tiend or abreast, to move in column ahead on abreast to form in single in the fleet to the best able to form in single in the matter of the fleet to the best above in column and the reast able to form in single in the fleet to the best able to form in single in the matter of the fleet to the best above in column and the best able to form in single in the fleet to the best able to form in single in the fleet to the best able to form in single in the fleet to the best able to form in single in the fleet to the best able to form in single in the fleet to the best able to form in single in the fleet to the best able to form in the fleet to the best in the fleet to the best able to form in

As a body, the fleet must be able to charge like a squadron of cavalry; and the difficulty can be realized partly when it is remembered that the horses in this case are masses of from 7,000 to 12,000 and the unity of swing of the moving ship. Before the engineer's watchful eye thun-ders that ponderous engine, and, by his quickened senses of sight and sound, he knows just how the ship is moving, and knows well-nigh to a foot the speed she is making. Besides, he knows how far his coal will carry him, and upon his judgment rests the radius of the vessel's effective-ness and her safe return to port.

Other Important Features.

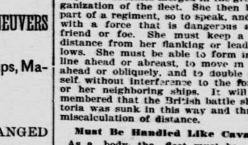
Particular attention will be paid to the various auxiliary engines that add to the working efficiency of the guns, the handling of the heavy ammunition, and the steering arrangements, and a comparative analysis will result. At present the Iowa has electrical, pneumatic and hydraulic mechanisms for this purpose, and the ques-tion to solve is which will be best in fitture. The one susceptible of easiest re-pair, and, at the same time, of least cam-

pair, and, at the same time, of least can-ger in time of breakage, is the one to com-mend itself for future use. There will be target practice and torpedo practice, and under the stimulating pres-el-ce of the assistant secretary a good deal of emulation is expected, and there is prom-ise of some very successful scores. There will be the usual drills of pre-paring for action, passirg ammuniton and preparing to abandon ship, and nothing will be left untried that will in any way

ency of the ships,

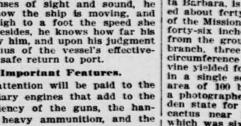
ten feet. At the rooms of the state board of trade in San Francisco some remarkable products of California soil are on exhibition. Last year, when the season was well advanced, pumpkins weighing 267 pounds were upon exhibition there. There were also cab-bages weighing ninety-five pounds, onlons that tipped the scales at five pounds, and a huge sweet potato, raised near Santa Ana, that weighed twenty-five pounds. Apples weighing twenty ounces are frequently on exhibition and a five-gallon glass jar con-tains eight pears, the weight of which is thirty-three and one-third pounds. These eight pears completely fill the five-gallon jar. Flowering plants grow to enormous jar. Flowering plants grow to enormous size in all parts of the state. Florists say they have seen lilies in California fourteen feet high, while geraniums that look like trees are common.

SSISTANT SECREtary of the Navy Roosevelt has a pro-



Munt Be Handled Like Cavalry.

tons, moving at the rate of quite fifteen tons, moving at the rate of quite fifteen knots an hour. A mere touch from such a craft would mean destruction or appalling injury. This proficiency is not all on deck and at the wheel; for down in the engine room, away from the sight of the passing water, rests the great responsibility of timing the stroke of those mighty engines and gauging their turns and resultant and gauging their turns and resultant speed to a nicety that means everything to the successful maintenance of position and the unity of swing of the moving ship.



Probably there is not a spot in California more prolific of enormous vegetable growth than Santa Rosa. Here is located the mammoth rose tree already mentioned. There are a score of dwellings in the vicinity completely embowered with roses, while fuchias are trained like vines. In Los Angeles H. L. Baker of Union street displays a rose bush which has reached a height of sixteen feet. Grafted upon its branches are twelve varieties of roses. The parent stalk is twelve years of age. The stalk, a few inches above the ground, is five inches in circumference. S. H. of Ontario recently discovered a wonderful freak of nature in the shape of a monstrous apple blossom on one of the trees in his orchard. The blossom, which resembles a large sized rose, measures nine and a half inches in circumference and is what may be called a second-crop blossom. An ordinary apple blossom contains five petals, while this one has thirty or forty. The big grape vine at Monteclio, near San-ta Barbara, is famous. The vine was plant-ed about forty years ago. The grapes are of the Mission variety. The parent stalk is forty-six inches in circumference to branch, three feet from the ground, its circumference is sixty-three inches. The vine yielded four and a half tons of grapes in a single season. The vine covers an area of 100 by 99 feet. Some years ago a photographer, in looking about the gol-den state for views, came across a giant cactus near Los Angeles, the trunk of which was six feet four inches in circum-ference. He also found in the same vicini-ty pampas plumes growing to the height of the feet.

come to the San Francisco market, of

course, are what they call pound pears, but I have seen them weighing two and a half pounds."

pcunds." At a recent convention of fruit growers heid in Pomona, E. P. Fowler of Paradise valley exhibited a remarkable assortment of deformed and abnormal oranges. One of these deformities looked for all the world like a pair of Jenness Miller's patent legists. At the same convention a farmer named F. Schulenberg of Claremont ex-bibited a variety of strawberies known as

named F. Schulenberg of Claremont ex-hibited a variety of strawberries known as the "Triumph le Grande," measuring three inches in diameter. At Kelsey's orchard, near Santa Bar-bara, is a remarkable plum tree, known as the Japan plum, which was planted in 1876. The fruit is heart-shaped and of a rich yellow color. The plums from this tree are frequently from eight to ten inches in cir-cumference. Probably there is not a spot in California more prolific of enormous vegetable growth

command that day was Capt. Drum's 4th Artillery.

"While the attack was successful, it proved a barren victory. Still, it was a step in advance, for it taught us that we could defeat the Mexicans on their chosen ground. We had driven Santa Anna to his last ditch. In order to defend the city of Mexico he placed his army outside the suburbs, under cover of the guns of lofty Chapultepec, Alongside Chapultepec was a pile of buildings over 600 feet in length, known as Molinos del Rey, the Mills of the known as Molinos del Rey, the Mills of the King. This whole structure was of red sandstone, with heavy, thick walls ex-tending three or four feet above the roofs. The courtyards and alleyways between the detached buildings were provided with the detached buildings were provided with thick stone doors, guarded by stone or earthen barricades. One of the buildings was used for the storage of powder, and it was partly for the purpose of destroying the magazine and partly in the hope that the position was a key to the castle of Chapultepec that Scott decided to make the attack. the attack.

"The boldness of the attack is seldom equaled in warfare. Scott had reached a point in the campaign where he believed that we should stop at no sacrifice to drive the enemy from the stronghold and plant our guns there to command the city itself. He ordered Gen. Worth to move to the at-tack with his division on the morning of September 8. The line was formed with Col. Garland's brigade upon the right. Our battery, or two pieces of our battery, ac-companied Garland. To the left of us were the battering guns, and a picked storming party, consisting of five companies of one hundred men each, under Maj. George Wright. On our extreme left, opposite the Mexican right, was Clark's brigade, with boldness of the attack is seldom Mexican right, was Clark's brigade, with Duncan's battery.

### The Signal for Attack.

At daylight the battering guns fired the signal for attack, and Major Wright's storming column dashed forward upon the Mexican battery in the center of the formidable line. It was greeted with round and grape shot. Double quickstep was ordered and the men passed forward under a crossfire of musketry, within close range. They took the battery and turned it upon the enemy. But the triumph of the stormers was of short duration. The Mexicans rallied and concentrated a close and destructive fire upon Wright's men from the walls of the acqueduct, which ran-along the whole line, from the housetops and stone walls. Out of twelve officers at the head of the storming party ten were' shot down within five minutes. The loss shot down within five minutes. The loss among enlisted men was terrible. Shaken by this disaster the remnant of the storm-

ing party was driven back. "Then our time came. To prevent the Mexican pursuit in the center upon the defeated column, Garland's brigade dashed forward on the right. We kept close upon the heels of the infantry with our guns and opened fire at 200 yards. While we the heels of the infantry with our guns, and opened fire at 200 yards. While we were unlimbering a discharge of Mexican grape disabled several horses, which were cut from the traces. The guns then moved forward by hand. Our first round was all solid shot. Then we pushed the guns forward to within one hundred yards of the enemy and gave them canister, cnfilad-ing their entire line of guns, where Major Wright's column had charged. The light battalion then dashed over the ground where Wright had been repulsed and seized the guns.

# The Mexicans Driven Out.

"As our line approached the mills we were stormed at with grape and canister and musketry fire from the roofs of the buildings. Our infantry broke through the barricaded gates and doorways of the mills, exposed to a heavy fire. the mills, exposed to a heavy fire. Once on the inside we found ourselves in the midst of an armed enemy. When driven from one position of the walls the Mexi-cans would retire to another, contesting every inch of ground. Only by climbing through roofs and making our way through roofs and making our way through roofs and making our way through roots and making our way however, railied, and with an eighteen-pounder advanced down the road toward the mills. Captain Drum led us forward with one piece and after a rapid and ef-fective dre cleared the road. The enemy abondomed their gun. Once "The cannon used in this contest with the Mexican eighteen-pounder was one of

was one of our has a chance to get at y

ning of a series of desperate attacks upon strong positions, heavily manned. There was no other way to win in Mexico at that was no other way to win in Mexico at that period. We were at the gates of the capi-tal, confronted by superior forces, and must press on to success or destruction. Before us lay those lofty heights. Narrow reads and marshes, blocked by fortifica-tions, surrounded us on either flank, should we pass around Chapultepec. Chapultepec blocked one road and commanded three blocked one road and commanded three blocked one road and commanded three roads at a distance from it. Its guns also swept the plain, for it was higher than all the ground around it. Santa Anna thought that Chapultepec could never be taken, and it couldn't have been taken except by storming, just as we did that morning at El Molinos del Rey. And to be frank, if I had to be either, I would rather be where I was with the stormers than with the stormed. The shots of the latter nasad stormed. The shots of the latter passed over our heads, and while we last fearfully we gave better than we got. The hardest end of the fight was ours, and we won it."

#### Journalistic Success in England. From the New York Post.

Recent transactions in journalistic property in England show that enterprise in newspapers, when in competent hands, leads to wealth on a large scale. A provincial newspaper, the Manchester Courler, with its satellite, the Manchester Evening News, has just been successfully launched as a limited liability company, at a valuation of £300,000. Sir George Newnes is converting the hitherto profit-able journalistic and publishing company of George Newnes, limited, into a yet big-ger concern, with a capital of f1,000,000. The enterprise was started with Tit-Bits in 1881 by the then Mr. Newnes. By de-grees the Strand Magazine, Woman's Life, the Hub and other publications were added to the business. The concern was turned into the existing company in 1891. The profits amounted in 1895 to \$57,000, in 1896 to \$60,000, in 1897 to \$66,000. The one-pound shares, issued at a premium of five shillings, are now worth \$2-12-6 each. The Strand Magazine, a sixpenny, sells to the number of 400,000 a month, and notoriously has a very large circulation on this side of the water. Sir George Newnes is a re-markable instance of man's attaining to rank and fortune by self-help. Not so meny years ago he kept a small shop in a back street in Manchester. Tuday, though only in middle life, he is a buronet of the United Kingdom and a man of vast wealth. He was a member of the house of com-mons, but was defeated at the last general election. Newnes is converting the hitherto profitis, but was defeated at the last general

# A Woman as Section Boss.

election.

#### From the St. Paul Globe. The Duluth and Winnipeg railroad has

given the modern woman a trial, and put Mrs. Mary Shannon, a young widow, in charge of a section gang. She has filled the position nearly a year, taking the place of her husband when he died. The road master asserts that she is the best section boss he has on the line. This is a description of her at work:

Dressed in a pair of bloomer overalls with the bottoms laced around the tops of cowhide boots, and her head adorned by a broad-brimmed slouch hat, the woman section boss may be seen any day, except

Sunday, in all kinds of weather, standing beside the track in the midst of a gang of laborers, directing the work of surfacing, lining up and rall replacing. Every morn-ing at 7 o'clock Mrs. Shannon kisses her two babes and leaves them to the care of the trustworthy section man's wife, while she goes forth to the day's work on the rallroad. The men are walting for her at the switch, with the hend car loaded with tools and dinner pails. "All ready, boys; let'er go," she says, and they are off down the line to a day of toil. After ten hours' work, when the "boss" looks at her watch and shouts, "All aboard for supper," there is a scran.ble of hungry toilers, a clatter-ing of shovels and bars as they are thrown upon the car, a ratiling of empty dinner pails, and away they go homeward. Sunday, in all kinds of weather, standing

It Never Mis From the New York Journal.

Bobble-"Say, pop, how does a fender keep a cable car from killing you?"

is as sprightly as any of the younger men who march with him in the sliver and black uniform for which the old command-ery fought the good fight so long.

Sir James Grigg.

he is uncommonly hale, hearty and cheery. He is proud of the fact that he is the first

traordinary.

Celebrated September 10.

The Only Survivor. Sir Knight Grigg is the only survivor of

embership from

the commandery who was present at the ceremony of laying the corner stone of the Washington monument, July 4, 1848. The exercises were conducted by the eminent commander of Washington, No. 1, who was then grand master of Masons for the District of Columbia. It was also his privilege to again appear with the commandery thirty-seven years afterward, when the beautiful shaft was completed.

"It was my pleasure to have been well acquainted with several of the original members of Washington Commandery," said Mr. Grigg yesterday. "It was organ-ized twenty-two years before I entered it; but a considerable number of the charter s were still with us. I knew Jo-

Bed twenty-two years before I entered it: but a considerable number of the charter members were still with us. I knew Jo-seph Ingle, who was a charter member, and was recorder when I was knighted. The old uniform of Richard Rock, also a charter member, but who had belonged to another body of Templars before that, is preserved at the Old Dominion Command-ery asylum. It is very interesting. "The heart, the soul, the very life of the early Washington Commandery," contin-ued the venerable sir knight. "was Benja-min B. French. He was indeed a grand man. The commandery had been dormant during the terrible early days of anti-Masonic proscription. He took upon him-self the task of restoring vigorous activity, and succeeded admirably, as in everything else. He had then just retired from the office of clerk of the House of Representa-tives, and threw himself into the work with great energy. He was for twelve years our most eminent commander, and he surrem-dered that office only to become grand master of Templars of the United States." The veteran also spoke with mingled famous members of his old commandery, including the distinguished Gen. Albert Pike, who was knighted in the commandery, including the distinguished Gen. Albert Pike, who was knighted in the commandery, including the distinguished Gen. Albert Pike, who was knighted in the commandery, including the distinguished Gen. Albert Pike, who was knighted in the commandery, including the distinguished Gen. Albert Pike, who was knighted in the commandery, including the distinguished Gen. Albert Pike, who was knighted in the commandery, including the distinguished Gen. Albert Pike, who was knighted in the commandery, including the distorian and ritualist; Charles F. Stansbury, who, while eminent commander, suffered the loss of his com-mand rather than surrender "the good old black uniform" at the behest of the Grand Encampment; the late Clement W. Ben-nett, and many others who have gone be-tore.

For the surviving veterans he also had warm regard, particularly Daniel McFar-lin, the prelate of the commandery, who for more than twenty years has performed the duties of that chair with great fidelity and ability, and has feelingly conducted the touching ceremonies of the order over very, very many of its departed members.

Always a Whig.

James Grigg has been a lifetime whig. "I am one yet," he said, "although I may not be recognized. I started out voting fo

All one yet," he said, "although I may not be recognized. I started out voting for Henry Clay, and my principles are the same now as then. I stuck by the whig ship until it went down. I supported Clay in 1844, Taylor in 1848, Scott in 1852, Fill-more in 1856, and Bell in 18600. I did not believe in the principle of secession, and did not go with my people of the south, although so many of my friends were with them that the war brought many heart-aches. I have voted the democratic ticket in late years, but I am a good whig yet." Washington Commandery will appro-priately and modestly celebrate the golden anniversary of the knightheod of this good gray whig at a special conclave at the asylum of that body in Masonic Tem-ple. The committee in charge, headed by those likely, younger members, Captain Allison Nailor and Joseph Gawler, who united with the commandery only twenty years after the veteran Grigg, will not reveal just what they propose to do on the occasion. One feature will, however, be the presence of all the older members who are in the city who were contemporaries of the smos young Grigg. The oldest of these are John T. Neety, who was knight-ed in February, 1860, and Rev. Byron Sun-deriand, Washington's venerable and ven-erated Presbyterian clerkyman, who was February, 1860, and Rav. Byron d. Washington's venerable and Presbyterian clergyment erated Presbyterian clergyman knighted "on a rare night in Ju

Veteran Kaights as Ga Veteran knights of the other command ories of the District will also be invite as guests, but as the oldest of these ger arous rivals of older Washington Com mandery, Columbia, No. 2, was not ear

Early Childhood. nhart in the Independent.

It is to be maintained, therefore, that the elements of literary and artistic culture n.ay be instilled in childhood. It is a mistake only recently recognized as such by the greater number of elementary school teachers to assume that young person settled. from six to fourteen years of age have The Drills to Be Undergone. neither the taste nor the capacity for real literature—for those masterpieces of human genius which, because they are the works The proposed maneuvers, then, will be of the greatest importance to the service, as of the highest creative imagination, have a truly educative power. Recent biography in the case of those who have cared to report well as to the country; first, in the tactical experience for officers and crew, and, second, in the prompt discovery of difficulties

the earliest sources of their inspiration for literature and art bears witness to the powerful influence of literature in early childhood. A few illustrations will suffice. Hampton Roads, and, in the Dolphin, will accompany the fleet to sea, where for four days the ships will undergo drills of all kinds, including tactical formation, great gun practice, signaling, searchlight exergun practice, signating, searchight exer-cises and individual maneuvers. Mr. Roosevelt believes that the ships which will perform these drills are among the best in the world, and he is anxious to justify more of them. And to that end he is anxious to see for himself how radical are some of the reported defects, and to study upon what lines we should make departures or remedies. The vessels of the fleet are the products of some of the greatest architectural

childhood. A few illustrations will suffice. The stories of Hans Andersen now form part of the course in literature for the fourth year in school in a score of promi-nent cities in our country. Now, John Ad-dington Symonds, in fils "Autioblography," records the impression made upon him while a very young child by Andersen's story of "The Ugly Duckling." "The story made a deep impression on my mind at this time. I sympathized passion-ately with the poor bird, swimming round and round in the duck puddle. I cried con-vulsively when he flew away to join his beautiful, wide-winged white brethren of the windy journeys and the lonely meads. Thousands of children have undoubtedly done the same, for it is a note of childhood The vessels of the fleet are the products of some of the greatest architectural minds the navy has produced, and indi-vidually are magnificently formidable, but the question now is to determine, if pos-sible, on what further line we shall pro-ceed to gain the greatest promise of hardone the same, for it is a note of childhood in souls destined for expression to feel soli-tary and debarred from privileges due to

tary and debarred from privileges due to them." This incident may be paralleled by an epi-sode in the present writer's own experience. A child five years old was being entertained by being read to from "Pilgrim's Progress." He was presently found to be crying. Upon being asked why he cried he explained that he was so sorry that Christian had lost his roll, the allusion being to the incident in the third stage of the immortal story, where Christian, while sleeping, drops from his becom the roll which was the assurance of his life and the token of his happy recep-tion at the end of the journey. Symonds gives another instance of the educative and determining influence of lit-

educative and determining influence of lit-erature during his early years: My sisters and I were riding one day upon a rocking horse which stood on the landing of the attic floor. I was holding on to the tail of the horse. We were scream-ing out in chorus Scott's lines upon the death of Marmion:

"With dying hand above his head He shock the fragment of his blade, And should "Wictory." "Charge, Chester, charge: on Stanley, en," Were the last words of Marmion."

Suddenly I ceased to war, a resolve had formed itself unbidden in my mind: "When I grow up I too will be an author." Cardinal Manning testfles to the perma-nent impression made by the books he read when in his tenth fear." Before he went to school, in 1816, his motion had given him a New Testament

New Testament. 13 1 "I remember that I devoured the "I remember that I devoured the Apeca-lypse, and I never, all through my life, for-got the lake that burneth with fire and got the lake that burneth with fire brimstone. That werse has kept me, an audible voice, through all my life."

- new Not Tred to It. 120

Indiana and the prove the relative effic of the vessels—the indiana and the Massa-chusetts—are sister ships, and it is the pri-mary purpose of the evolutions to study the peculiarities of each and reduce their func-tions to a standard of possible concert. The wisdom of this cannot be too strongly em-phasized; for thus in peace times can de-fects be detected and remedied and the matterum of units of action discovered and dividually or collectively. Proficiency in fleet or squadron tactics is the highest art of naval warfare, and in a

conflict between even fleets of equal er the palm of success will rest with him whom practice has made more nearly perfect. In these evolutions we are following the maximum of unity of action discovered and

In these evolutions we are following the annual routine of European navies, and next year perhaps we may begin the solu-tion of some of those strategical problems that permit of the utilizations of every craft from the battle ship down to the tor-

craft from the battle ship down to the tor-pedo boat. In the present departure we are taking one big stride in the right direction, and the result is bound to be one of inestimable value to the designers of our ships, as well as to the officers and men who are to make the most of them in the defense or peace-ful maintenance of the dignity of old glory. Mr. Roosevelt will join the squadron at

CALIFORNIA FREAKS.

Some Monstrous Growths of Vegeta tion.

Los Angeles Letter in Brooklyn Engle.

"We are not much on corn here in Call fornia." said Seedman L. Germain of Los Angeles, yesterday, "but in all other products of nature we can beat the world." He is perhaps the oldest seedman on the Pacific coast. What he does not know about fruit, grain and vegetables is not worth knowing. When asked about vegesible, on what further line we shall pro-ceed to gain the greatest promise of har-monious action. Taking the lowa, the largest of the fleet; she has a total weight or displacement of 11,410 tons. She is 360 feet long, has a beam of 72 feet 2½ inches and draws normally 25 feet of water. She carries a main armament of eighteen guns, ranging from rapid-fire four-inch guns up to her ponderous twelve-inch rifles in heavy-armored turrets. There is an auxiliary force of twenty-eight smaller pieces, rang-ing from the Gatling up to the six-pound-er. She carries hundreds of tons of hard-ered steel armor, varying in thickness from four to eighteen inches. Her propell-ing engines are capable of developing an indicated horse power of 11,000-a force that has no descriptive equivalent, while eighty odd auxiliary engines are provided for the accomplishment of as many dif-ferent services, any one of which is far beyond the muscular aggregate of her whole crew. Besides all this, she must be a comfortable housing for her complement of five hundred, and must have room eough for their provisions and the coal that must feed her bollers. table monstrosities yesterday, he refreshed his memory for a moment and then continued: "Of course, you have heard of the big grape vine at Santa Barbara, which covers an area of three acres of land. Then there is the monster rose bush at Santa Rosa. I remember, when a boy, I mar-yeied at the size of this floral plant. It veied at the size of this floral plant. It grew to an enormous height, and complete-ly covered the house where it grew. Dur-ing my lifetime here in California 1 have handled squashes running all the way from 150 to 300 pounds each. Watermelons I have seen weighing from thirty-five to 100 pounds. Beets are frequently known on this coast weighing all the way from forty to seventy-five pounds. I remember one beet raised at San Rafael which weighed about eighty pounds. Last fall I saw three onicns, the aggregate weight of which was nearly five pounds. In the Pomona valley I have known of onions weighing from one and three-quarters to two and a half pounds. Tomato vines frequently grow ten or twelve feet across, and I have often seen radishes that looked like big turnips. "How about potatoes?"

radishes that looked like big turnlps. "How about potatoes?" "Well, I have observed specimens of the Humboldt county potato which weighed from two to three pounds. It is not at all unusual to see cabbage weighing from thirty-five to seventy-five pounds. Some years ago a Mr. Fox, who lived down in the Santa Cruz mountains, raised a carrot of the white Beigian variety which weighed abcut twenty-eight pounds. It was the big-gest carrot on record. In the way of fruits we have raised on this coast enormous peaches and pears. The largest pears that

## Manufacture of Chemicals. From the Chicago Inter-Ocean.

The city of Niagara Falls has more factories making chemicals by electricity to-day than any other in the world. The plant for manufacturing chlorate of potash is the first to introduce this industry into the United States. The uses for this product are continually increasing. From five to six million pounds are annually imported, a large portion of which is used in calico dyeing as an oxidizer. It is also employed in the manufacture of parlor matches, blasting powder and some of the smokeless powders. It is taken medicinally for various aliments. The salt commonly called muriate of potash is found in large quantities in Stassfurt, in Germany, and it is shipped to this country in bass concalled muriate of potash is found in large quantities in Stassfurt, in Germany, and it is shipped to this country in bags con-taining 240 pounds each. It is dissolved in wooden tanks, pumped up to storage tanks, and is led from them through pipes to cast iron, porcelain-lined, electrolyzing tanks, divided by porous partitions into positive and negative compartments. The chloride solution is kept circulating from the positive to the negative compartments, being electrolyzed in its passage, and evolving chlorine gas at the positive pole, and forming caustic potash at the nega-tive pole. The gas is led into the negative compartment, where it combines with the caustic potash. It is then led down to tanks containing lead steam coils, and evaporated to the concentration point of chloride of potash when cold. From here it is run boiling hot to tanks, where it is allowed to cool. Little of the chloride crystallizes with the chlorate, as the two salts form at different densities. The chlo-rate crystals are raked out and dried and packed in kegs holding a hundred pounds. The mother liquor is pumped back to the storage tanks, to be used over again in the cells.

Zootherapy.

From the London Times. Zootherapy is a new system of curing ills devised by a Florentine named Terapi. It consists in transferring any disease a man may have to some animal, and is the converse of the medical theory that animals convey disease to man. Among the cures

tors, an electric lighting plant, steam heat-ing appliances, ventilators, and an exten-sive system of sanitary plumbing, in ad-dition to the usual furniture. Crowd into that space guns and ammunition, and plo-ture the difficulty of running such a place with the tax of interdependence of conwith the tax of interdependence certed action, and one has only modest notion of the complex di modest notion of the complex difficulties in shipboard. In the Indiana and the Massachusetts we have the equal of the Iowa in many respects, while in others their lesser dis-placement has imposed restrictions. In the Twass and the Maine we have a cross between the armored cruiser and the first-class battle ship, and, in the case of these approaching evolutions, the maxi-mum of concerted action will be based upon the best that these vessels are equal to. The New York and the Brooklyn, in point of speed, can hold their own anywhere, and, in the matter of tactical adroitness, may be said to be the leaders of the first. "This country must be increasing its pop-ulation very fast." "What makes you think so?" "Why, I understand that now there are as many people as there are different makes of wheels."

From Frank Leslie's Weekly.