

A NAVAL WONDER.

THE ABLEST COAST DEFENDER IN THE WORLD.

The Monitor Puritan, Just Completed, is the Pride of Uncle Sam's Navy—Features of the Monster Fighting Machine.

THE armored monitor Puritan, the best equipped and staunchest craft of her kind in the entire world, a fighting machine of the most modern kind, fit to withstand the assault of the guns of any enemy, is now moored between the two dry docks at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Her sides are painted white, her powerful turret guns are in position and her military mast with rapid fire guns aloft is carefully shrouded.

Naval officers who have watched the

and the lower parts of the turret are well protected by heavy plates of steel armor, the latter being fourteen inches thick, while the inclined sides of the upper part present but a small target and are very difficult of penetration by the shot of an enemy.

The turret guns weigh forty-five tons each and can throw a steel 850-pound shell a distance of fifteen miles. A 500-pound charge of powder is required to fire each ball.

The hull itself is protected by an armor belt five feet seven inches deep, fourteen inches in thickness to a point below the water line, from which it tapers to six inches at the armor shelf. This belt extends 150 feet along the middle part of the ship, protecting engines, boilers, magazines and shell rooms. Immediately forward and aft of this belt the armor is reduced in thickness to ten inches for a distance of twenty feet, and is further reduced to a thickness of six inches at the ends of the ship.

How the Hand Keeps Its Cunning.

"I don't believe that the hand or eye ever loses its cunning," remarked a gentleman of the newspaper fraternity the other day. "Now, I have not had time during the last twenty years to engage in the sports of the field or forest. A couple of weeks since I was one of the guests of a well known banker of this city at his hunting lodge in the country. We went hunting, and I must confess that it was with many misgivings that I accepted the shotgun our host insisted that I should shoulder, and went into the fields to chase the gay and festive partridge and lark. I hadn't shot a gun during the time mentioned. I waited until no one was looking, and blazed away at a field lark which was flying across a clearing with his little peculiar jerky flight, and down he came. I did it again and again. Shot doves in full flight, and all that sort of thing, and capped the climax by shooting two larks when I saw only one, the second happened to cross the range just as I pulled the trigger, I suppose, but at any rate I bagged two and carried the horns harder than a knot. So he cut around it carefully, chipping and splitting until he laid the object bare. It was a huge deer horn, buried in the very heart of the big oak. How it came there is a mystery. Perhaps some pioneer hunter or some Indian of a hundred years ago had shot a deer, and, to keep it from the wolves, had hung it by the horns in the limbs of a young oak, expecting to come back soon and claim it. But either he forgot where he left it or else some accident happened which prevented his return, and the horns remained in the tree year after year, until the wood grew entirely around them.

A MONSTER COW.

She is a Product of California and Weighs 2550 Pounds. Farmer William Bruce, of Tulare, Cal., owns a cow which has the distinction of being the largest by long odds of any animal of her sex in that part of the world. She could give pounds by the score to a Clydesdale stallion and then win the laurels from him as a heavyweight, and she is but six years old at that. When placed upon the scales to be weighed and afterwards photographed for the San Francisco Examiner she tipped the beam at precisely 2550 pounds. Remarkable as she is for weight, her height is even more astonishing. The measurements taken as she posed for her picture show that she stands exactly sixteen hands high, to come down to ordinary tap measure, five feet and four inches. Of her own

A Deer Horn Inside of a Tree.

Not long ago a huge oak tree was cut down in a Michigan forest. As the woodman split it up his ax struck something hard, which he thought at first was a knot. But when it nicked

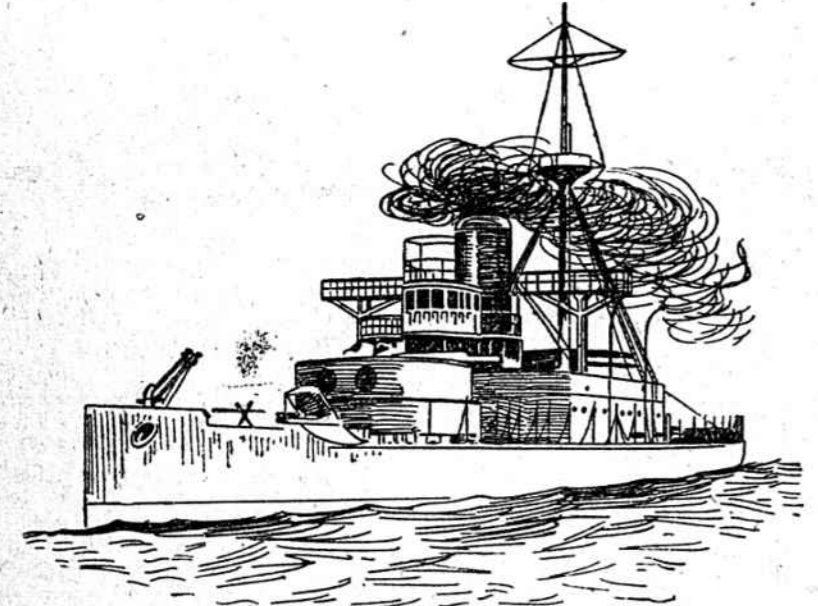


A DEER HORN IN A TREE.

the edge of the steel blade he made up his mind that it must be something very much harder than a knot. So he cut around it carefully, chipping and splitting until he laid the object bare. It was a huge deer horn, buried in the very heart of the big oak. How it came there is a mystery. Perhaps some pioneer hunter or some Indian of a hundred years ago had shot a deer, and, to keep it from the wolves, had hung it by the horns in the limbs of a young oak, expecting to come back soon and claim it. But either he forgot where he left it or else some accident happened which prevented his return, and the horns remained in the tree year after year, until the wood grew entirely around them.

Mexico's New Gunboat.

Mexico has virtually no navy. She has one or two so-called vessels of war, but they are the dimmest apologies for any kind of naval service. The Republic, however, having a little gunboat built at New Orleans for special service on the coast of Yucatan to protect the Government's mahogany interests from Indian depredations. It is the first boat, says the New Orleans Times-Democrat, which Mexico has contracted to have built in the United States. The boat has cypress ribs; will be



THE UNITED STATES MONITOR PURITAN. (One of our most formidable engines of war just put in commission.)

progress made in the evolution of modern naval architecture regard this novel fighting monster with pride. No wonder the old salts, and the young ones, too, for that matter, have christened her the Pride of the American Navy.

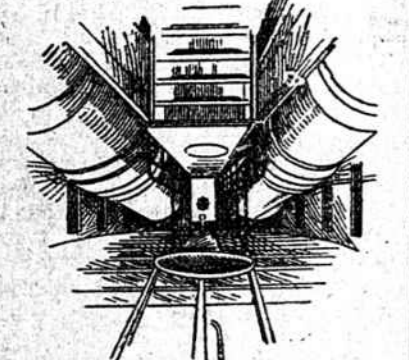
"With ships like the Puritan at the entrance to this harbor," said an officer, as he stood on the deck of the monitor, "the people of New York never need be afraid that an enemy's ships will ever dare to pass inside of Sandy Hook. New York's commerce

The armor is strongly supported by a wood backing and a system of rigid frames and girders. The main deck is covered by steel plating two inches thick. The ship will carry 150 tons of coal in her protected bunkers. Before the Puritan's armor was put in position it was carefully tested. In February, 1894, a plate eighteen feet long, six feet wide and fourteen inches thick, tapering to six inches was tested at the proving grounds at the Bethlehem, Penn., Iron Company's works. Two shots from a ten-inch gun were fired at it at a distance of 360 feet. Carpenter projectiles, weighing 500 pounds each, were used. The velocity was 1381 and 1630 feet respectively. The penetration of the first shot was 12 1/2 inches and that of the second 18 1/2 inches. There was no radiating cracks from the point of impact, and the backing showed no disturbance. The test was eminently satisfactory and the result was the acceptance of the armor by the Government.

Then again the Puritan is so constructed that her bulkheads can be filled with water, causing her to sink so that her deck would remain but a few inches above the water. The monitor is provided with eight boilers, which are fitted with appliances for forced draught. She has twin screws, with engines of the horizontal compound type capable of developing 3700 horse power with natural draught, which will develop a speed of twelve knots, while with forced draught she will develop nearly five thousand horse power and a speed of more than thirteen knots. All the machinery aboard the Puritan was tried and found in excellent working order.

The quarters of the men are large and commodious and the wardroom officers and junior officers have splendid apartments.

But as for the captain's cabin. This is about as small as one could imagine, and his office has just room enough to hold a small desk and a man. Two



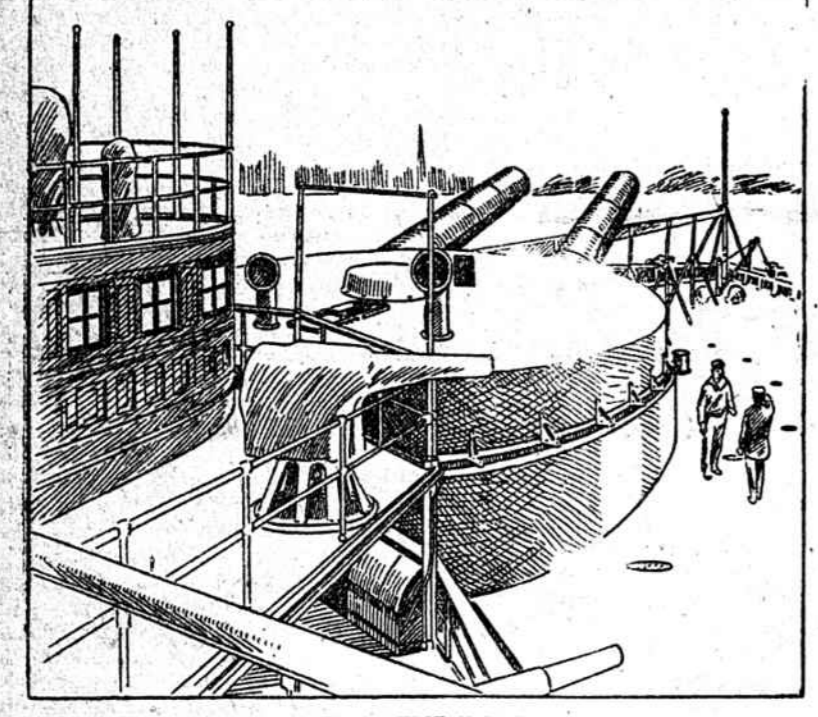
INTERIOR OF FORWARD TURRET.

is safe. The Puritan is the ablest, grandest, most powerful, best equipped fighting machine of the century."

Every officer and every Jack tar in the Brooklyn Navy Yard, from Commodore Sigsbee, the commandant of the home station, down to the youngest midshipman, and from the chief boat-sweep, down to the aftward sweeper, feels a lively interest in the Puritan.

The Puritan was begun in 1875, at the shipyard of the late John Roach, at Chester, Penn. She is 286 feet six inches long, with sixty feet six inches greatest breadth and a draught of water of eighteen feet. Her displacement is 6060 tons.

The Puritan carries four twelve-inch breech-loading guns in two turrets;



VIEW OF THE MONITOR PURITAN LOOKING FORWARD.

six four-inch rapid fire guns protected by armor shields and sponsons; two six-pounder rapid fire guns on the bridge deck; four six-pounder rapid fire guns on the superstructure deck and two one-pounder rapid fire guns, which are mounted in the military top aloft.

"You couldn't put another big gun aboard her," said a naval officer, "if you tried." She actually bristles with modern fighting guns. But won't she roll in a heavy sea war."

There are two big turrets on the main deck, one aft and one forward, and both can be revolved easily by hydraulic power, so that a rapid fire can be maintained in almost any direction. The turrets known as the Mitchell turrets, make it possible to raise the guns to a height of ten feet six inches above the water line. These turrets do not project down through the deck as do those in the Miantonomah; but the lower part, or barbette, is secured to the deck, forming a watertight wall around the base of the turret to a height of 5 1/2 feet above the deck. The upper part of the turret containing the guns is made to revolve about this barbette just referred to, and has inclined sides which make it appear something like a gigantic rivet head. Both the upper

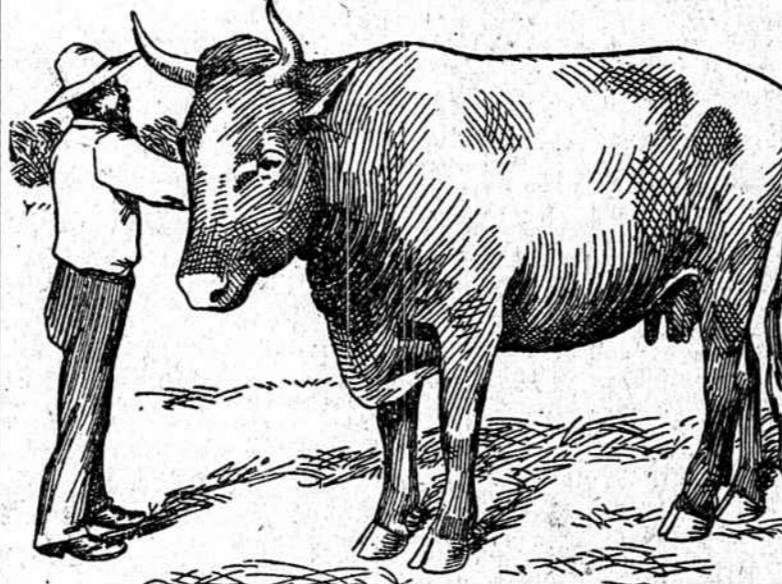
could not possibly turn around. There are two powerful searchlights mounted on the monitor, one on the forward bridge and one on an after bridge where the signal quartermaster is stationed and where his flag chest is located. The pilot house and chart room are in one. The small wheel connects the pilot house with a steam steering gear below. Numerous tubes connect the pilot house with every part of the ship, thus enabling the commander and the officer of the deck to communicate with the engine room, the men stationed in the turrets and elsewhere about the ship without leaving his post.

There is a fighting wheel in the after cabin below the water line. This has hand steering gear and can be used in an emergency.

The cost of the Puritan is about \$3,500,000.

The Speed of the Camel.

The speed of the camel when on a journey of considerable length rarely exceeds three miles an hour, and the swiftest dromedaries are rarely known to go faster than a ten-mile gait, but this can be kept up for twenty hours in the day, and for six or seven days at a time.—Answers.



THE COW THAT WEIGHS 2550 POUNDS.

claim to fame she is very modest, but of her calf, she is very proud, as, indeed, she might well be, for it is nearly as large as an ordinary cow, and as it persisted in being photographed at the same time as its mother it necessarily came in the weighing and measuring process. While it is just half as high as its mother, it weighs but one-fifth as much.

A Candle That is Transparent.

A French chemist makes a new kind of candle by dissolving five parts of colorless gelatine in twenty parts of water, adding twenty-five parts of glycerine and heating until a perfectly clear solution has been formed. To this is added two parts of tannin dissolved by heating in ten parts of glycerine. A turbidity is produced which should vanish on further boiling. The boiling is continued until the water has been driven off. The mass is then cast into ordinary glass candle molds. The candles obtained in this way are as clear as water and burn quietly, and without spreading any odor.—American Druggist.

The Rain Tree of Fierro.

Travelers in the Canary Islands tell of a remarkable tree that grows on one of the group. It might well be called a rain tree. Fierro, the island referred to, is extremely dry, not a rivulet traversing it anywhere. Yet a tree grows there around which is gathered a cloud, from which a gentle rain is always falling. Underneath the tree the natives of Fierro have constructed cisterns which are kept constantly full, thus giving them a water supply which they otherwise would not have on the island.

Sportsman's Paradise.

South Africa seems to be the sportsman's paradise, even if the stories told about the country are only half true. A recent account says the country is simply teeming with big game. Buffalo are in immense numbers, one herd which was seen recently being at least 1000 strong. Bucks are also extremely plentiful, while zebra and quagga and lions are too numerous to be pleasant. Wild fowl are in myriads, from a black duck with a white patch on its wings down to a sandpiper.—Philadelphia Ledger.

A Willing Parishioner.

A rector in a Suffolk village who was disliked in the parish had a curate who was very popular, and, who, on leaving, was presented with a testimonial. This excited the envy and wrath of the rector, and meeting with an old lady one day he said: "I am surprised, Mrs. Bloom, that you should have subscribed to this testimonial." "Why, sir," said the old lady, "if you'd been a-going I'd 'ave subscribed double."—London Tit-Bits.

Mexico invested nearly \$100,000 more in foreign machinery in May, 1896, than in May, 1895.

planked on the bottom and sides with cypress three and four inches thick; will have pine planking between the decks and will be finished in oak. The length is sixty-five feet by twenty-four feet beam by twelve feet depth and the draught will be two and a half feet. When completed the total height will be twenty-four feet. The heavy armament will consist of two guns, one in the bow, the other in the stern. These and the small guns will be placed aboard the boat after it has been delivered to the Mexico Government and is in Mexican waters. The cost will be \$9000.

Gold in River Sands.

Gold exists in the River Seine in a state of division so fine as to be invisible to the naked eye, and when the sand of the river near Paris is used in making glass the crucibles in which it is melted are sometimes gilded over at the bottom. In former times a sort of mining was in vogue at Paris by men who would buy five francs' worth of quicksilver, and, after passing river sand over it all day, would sell it in the evening for six or seven francs. Almost all the rivers of Europe carry small quantities of gold in their sands, such as the Rhine, Seine, the Anr, the Reuse, the Danube and others, also the Clyde and many other streams in Scotland, Wales and Cornwall, and though sand from the bed of the Rhine, for instance, yields only one-fifth of an ounce to the ton, yet the total amount of the yellow metal in that one river is immense. It has been found by calculation that that part of the River Rhine alone which flows through what was formerly French territory, contains no less than 36,000 tons of pure gold.

Case of "Hard Tack."



Wandering Ike—"For heaven sake, Bill, watcher at now?" Weary Bill—"Why, de old woman over in dat house jist gimme a hunk o' somethin' she called pie, and it's so tough dat I got ter sharpen up my grinders so I kin wade through der crust."—Twinkles.

The Piute Indians of Austin, Nev., are making an effort for the establishment of a school at that place.

STYLISH SLEEVES.

REDUCED DIMENSIONS ARE DEMANDED BY DAME FASHION.

But They Must Be Close-Fitting From Wrist to Elbow—Fashionable Boleros For Young Girls.

THE sleeve which blew itself out so long and so pretentiously is energetically suppressed by Dame Fashion to its proper dimensions, and now, writes May Manton, shows the truth of the old proverb, "Modesty adorns," as it appears in the reduced state both



LADIES' AND MISSES' SLEEVES.

more graceful and ornamental than before. Fashion dictates, however, that the sleeves must be close-fitting from the wrist to above the elbow, where a slight puff is permissible; when the sleeves fit snugly to the shoulder they are somewhat relieved by volants, draperies or epaulettes. Two pretty designs are given in the illustration.

No. 1 is developed in brown canvas cloth with figures in hyacinth purple. The adjustment, close to the shoulders, has a graceful drape above terminating in a soft knot at the shoulder. The wrists have a slight point extending over the hand. No. 2 may be rightly termed a modified sleeve, serving as a compromise between the sleeve of last season and the extremely tight-fitting ones of this. It is made in granitic woolen and has a separate portion. The fulness stands out fashionably from gathers at the top, fitting the arm closely below. The wrist is finished with a cuff of decidedly original shape.

To make these sleeves for a lady in the medium size requires two and one-fourth yards for No. 1 design and one and three-eighths yards for No. 2 design, of forty-four-inch wide material.

FASHIONABLE BOLEROS FOR GIRLS.

The short bolero or zouave jacket, according to May Manton, is the most fashionable of the season's accessories. Here are shown two of the very latest



FASHIONABLE BOLEROS FOR GIRLS.

designs, which we give as one pattern. No. 1 is made of cream-colored satinet cloth, the revers and small edges being decorated with green braid interwoven with gold cord. The fronts are shaped in rounded outline and the back, of becoming length, is straight. The shoulders extend well over the dress sleeves and form pointed epaulettes.

No. 2 is represented in beautiful two-toned velvet, combining the autumnal shades of green and red. The collar is of satin in the same deep red tint while the edges are outlined with fancy galloon in colors to correspond. The jacket is shaped by shoulder and under-arm seams, the fronts being slightly rounded, while the back is notched to a point in fish-tailed effect. The collar falls deeply over the shoulders and back in sailor style and extends down the front in slashed revers. Any of the season's new fabrics will

make stylish and attractive boleros by the mode, plain colors being usually chosen in black, brown, dark green, steel or dove gray, heliotrope, fuchsia, pistache-green or creamy satin worn with waist to match or correspond.

Not only will boleros be found stylish in renovating last season's blouses and waists, but useful as well, for when made of cloth, velvet, etc., they will provide additional warmth. To make No. 1 design it will require three-fourths of a yard of twenty-two inch wide material, and to make No. 2 design it will require one and one-quarter yards of the same width material.

LATEST FAD IN BOLERO JACKETS.

The exquisite design here repre-



LADIES' WAIST WITH BOLERO AND GIRDLE.

ented embraces the latest fad in the bolero jacket and wrinkled girdle belt. Glace silk was chosen for the waist, the ground of lawn, showing stripes of golden brown. The waist is arranged over fitted linings which close in centre front. The jacket fronts in rounded bolero style are trimmed with iridescent jeweled passementerie while the lower edges are outlined with a quilling of brown satin ribbon. The full front of



LADIES' WAIST WITH BOLERO AND GIRDLE.

tan chiffon is gathered at the neck and waist line, falling in pretty folds to the top of the deep girdle belt, the closing being effected invisibly in centre. The back, smooth fitting across the shoulders, has the fulness drawn well to the centre in overlapping plaits at the lower edge. The girdle of satin is deepest in centre front, where the fluted edges conceal the closing. The



FASHIONABLE BOLEROS FOR GIRLS.

sleeves, mounted over coat shaped lining, are wrinkled from wrists to a little above the elbow, where they stand out well from the shoulders in moderate fulness, according to the latest style. A standing collar which is covered by a stock of brown taffeta ribbon ending in a large bow at back of neck.

Elaborately trimmed, the waist may be worn at dinner, informal luncheon or tea, while developed in subdued colors or less expensive materials it will be equally appropriate for completing a street toilette.

To make this waist for a lady in the medium size it will require three yards of forty-four-inch wide material.

TEMPERANCE.

DRINK AND DANGER.

Write it on the workhouse gate, Write it on the schoolboy's slate, Write it on the soldier's uniform, That the young man or it look— "Where there's drink there's danger."

Write it on the church and ground, Where the sick-soldiers' graves are found, Write it on the gallows high, Write it for all passer-by— "Where there's drink there's danger."

Write it on the ships that sail, Born along the shores and plain, Write it in large letters plain, O'er our land and past the main— "Where there's drink there's danger."

Write it on the Christian dome, Sixty thousand drunkards roam, Year by year from God and right, Proving with restless might— "Where there's drink there's danger."

WHAT IS A DRUNKARD?

"What is a drunkard? I have gone through the whole creation that lives," said Archbishop Ullathorne, "and I find nothing in it like the drunkard. The drunkard is nothing but the drunkard. There is no other thing in nature to which he can be likened. The drunkard is a self-made wretch who has deprived himself of the throat of his body until he has sunk his soul so far that it is lost in his flesh, and has sunk his very flesh lower beyond comparison than that of the animals which serve him. He is a self-degraded creature whose degradation is made manifest to everyone but himself, a self-miserable being who while he is insensible to his own misery, afflicts everyone around him or belonging to him with misery. The drunkard is let loose upon mankind like some foul, ill-boding and noxious animal, to pester, torment and disgust everything that reasons or feels, while the curse of God hangs over his place and the gates of heaven are closed against him. Drunkenness is never to be found alone, never unaccompanied by some horrid crime, if not by a wicked crowd of them. Go to the house of the drunkard, consider his family, look at his affairs, listen to the sounds that proceed from the house of drunkenness and the house of infamy as you pass. Survey the insecurity of the public highways and the streets at night. Go to the hospitals, to the house of charity, and the bed of wretchedness. Enter the courts of justice, the prison, and the condemned cell. Look at the haggard features of the ironed criminal. Ask all these why they exist to distress you, and you will everywhere be answered by tales and details of the effects of drunkenness. And the miseries and the woes and the sorrows and the scenes of suffering that have barred up your soul, were almost without exception either prepared by drinking, or were undergone for procuring the means of satisfying this vice and the vices which spring from it."

THE DRINK TRADE IN RUSSIA.

The mode of regulating the sale of intoxicants in Russia has passed through many phases during the last few years. The Government has taken the whole matter into their own hands, and have constituted themselves the sole agents for the distribution among eighty million people of the produce of 2500 distilleries. It is not the interest of temperance that has been done, but rather in the interest of revenue. The hope is expressed that with the liquor places under impartial management, the revenue may be increased, and the drinking saluaries may be more regular in their drinking all the year round, and thus consume in the aggregate a larger quantity than is now consumed by the bootleggers on the numerous holidays that mark the Russian year. Already the Russian Government are indebted to strong drink for eighty per cent of their revenues. If the new scheme should realize, the hopes of the promoters, the retailers' profit being added to the large sums now received as duties or taxes, the coffers of the treasury ought to swell to the point of bursting. But, as a contemporary writer says: "There is to be taken into account the inherent rottenness of Russian officialdom. One can imagine no better incentive to peculation and corruption than this gigantic liquor monopoly."

AN EBREOUS IDEA.

Says the Scientific American: "For some years past a deluded notion has been apparent all over the country to give up the use of whiskey and other strong alcohols, using as a substitute beer and other comparatively innocuous beverages. The idea that beer is not harmful and contains a larger amount of nutriment; also that it may have some medicinal quality which will neutralize the alcohol it contains. These notions are entirely unfounded. In the observations of physicians and chemists, the use of beer is found to produce a species of degeneration of all the organs, profound and deceptive. Fatty deposits, dilated circulation, chronic inflammation, perversion of functional activities, local inflammation of both the liver and the kidneys, are constantly resulting from its use."

WHAT MAKES CRIMINALS.

Statistics show that fifty to seventy-five per cent of all the crime committed in the United States is done by persons who, under the influence of alcohol. The reason for this is plain. The person committing the crime is unbalanced, his brain is paralyzed, he cannot think or act rightly. The monomaniac, the dipsomaniac, the idiot, the epileptic, the imbecile and the feeble minded are increasing at a greater ratio than the normal increase of the population, and it is this class of defectives which largely compose the criminal class.

THE NATION'S DRINK BILL.

During 1895 there were spent for the support of churches in this country, in round numbers, \$125,000,000; for public education, \$100,000,000; for printing and publishing, \$370,000,000; for staple articles of food (meat, flour, sugar, molasses and potatoes), \$1,550,000,000; for liquors, \$1,080,000,000. That is, \$420,000,000 more were spent for liquors than were spent for the support of religion, public education, printing and publishing combined.

LITTLE SHORT OF A POISON.

It is the peculiar double action of alcohol which is misleading. So long as the organs of the body are in healthy condition, alcohol is little short of a poison. The organ, in order to do its work properly, needs food, and unless there is interference the food will be absorbed and changed into proper forms of nourishment. Alcohol robs the organs of the power of doing this.

A PROHIBITION EXPERIMENT.

A home-protected colony is to be started by Mr. Henry Menier, the French chocolate millionaire, who has just bought the Island of Anticosti, at the mouth of the St. Lawrence River, for \$150,000. The inhabitants will be asked to live under a prohibition liquor and game law, and will have the fullest liberty in every respect. Much interest centres about the experiment.

TEMPERANCE NEWS AND NOTES.

Virginia has just enacted a law making it a misdemeanor to sell intoxicants to an attendant of an educational institution in that State.

Sir Leonard Tilley said it is not good statesmanship for Canada to spend \$40,000,000 in liquors and collect a revenue of \$2,000,000.

The French Academy of Medicine recently adopted resolutions declaring that the drink evil has become a permanent danger, attacking "the very life and force of the country" and laying stress on the fact that the purest alcohol "is always and fundamentally a poison."

The liquor traffic constantly foils organized labor's efforts at amelioration of the condition of the working people. The great cause organized labor is in the sale of the Scotch "kick-headed" people who show the warmth of their affection by forcing upon their friends, particularly young men, intoxicating drinks, are a pest to the community.

The Abolition Sportsman is responsible for the statement that "drunk and incapable" was the charge brought against five hundred children under ten years of age in Christian London for one year.

A movement has been started against the Pullman car to prevent them from selling beer and spirits while in service. It is claimed that on some trains the service is the same as a second-class saloon, and a source of much complaint to many travelers.