

Importance of a Stronger Navy and Numerons Coaling Stations.

THE POWER OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

What Statesmen Are Thinking of In Washington-Several Indications Which Will Soon Be Realized as Facts, or Which Will at Least Become National Issues.

Washington Cor. St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

number of particulars. There are a few who believe that before the conflict between the United States and Spain is ended other nations will be drawn into the fight, and that the war will be a more terrible one than the world has ever known. There are some who believe that the time is now ripe for an alliance between the two great English-speaking nations of the earth for the purpose of bringing about the supremacy of the English-speak-ing people in the Pacific and in Asiatic waters; there are others that claim the folly of the United States in interfering outside of its own territory has been demonstrated.

The president is being advised strongly on the one side never to haul down the American flag in the Philippines, and on the other not to consider the holding of these islands as Ameri can territory after the conclusion of the war. But while opinions differ radically upon the subjects of territorial aggrandizement and the advisability of the English alliance, there are two things developed by the present struggle upon which there is a practical unanimity of American sentiment. One is that the United States must have a much greater navy than it has; a navy, backed by the nation's other resources, will make the United States fully capable of holding its own with any other nation in the world; and the other is a necessary concomitant of the first-more coaling stations.

Captain Mahan, a member of the board of strategy and one of the most distinguished naval experts in the world has said that a warship without be enabled to cross the Pacific at a ing stations at Trinidad, Barbadoes, he received considerable attention. The system has the services of 2,300 world, has said that a warship without

## tifications on western and Alaskau coaling station on the south side of want to command a body of men who colors. coasts than would be required if the island of Guinea, and five in Au-Hawaii should remain in its present stralia, with one also on the island of forever running into danger. Give me of your paper containing whatever condition or pass into the possession of a foreign power. Tasmania. In New Zealand she has two coaling stations. She also com-nerver to control his fear. He will do boy. Yours, etc., M. S. GLENN. mands the Fiji islands. EXAMPLE OF ENGLAND. ARGUMENT FOR ALLIANCE.

"Few persons not conversant with

Coming over to the west coast of marine matters have had any appreci-America, we find her strongly fortified ation of the necessity of these coaling stations to the United States until the and well supplied with coal at Vancouver. Her possessions of the Falk present war forced the matter upon land islands, where she has strong for their attention in a striking manner. tifications and plenty of coal, give her A cruiser or a battle-ship with a coal capacity necessary to carry her 5,000 practically the command of the Straits place since that time, many of our Already the war with Spain has miles, steaming at a speed of 10 knots of Magellan. St. Helena and Ascenbrought forth problems which are ab- an hour, will exhaust her coal in less sion island, midway between the coast McQuary, the young man who came tile fleet that has ever been put in sorbing the attention of American than 1,000 miles by doubling her of Brazil and the coast of Africa, are statesmen. There are some who are speed. One of the greatest arguments hers, and they are also fortified and statesmen. There are some who are speed. One of the greatest arguments hers, and they are also fortified and predicting that the present struggle in favor of our possession of the use to coaled. On the west coast of Africa she has Bathurst, Senegambia and Hawian islands is that with a supply of coal well guarded in Pearl Harbor, Monrovia. In the Caribean sea we

his duty well, and do it without exposing himself unnecessarily." AROUND THE WORLD.

> A Letter That Never Came and Another That Did.

Gulf coasts, says a Washington dis-Although stirring events have taken patch, the navy department has completed the most comprehensive system readers, no doubt, remember T. Allen for observing the approach of a hosthrough this section last December operation.

A new bureau has been created for

Would be pleased to receive a copy

**GUARDING THE COAST.** 

veston, stating briefly that everything is quiet or otherwise, as the case may be. Thus far the day reports have been uniformly assuring, but the night reports have been at times alarming. The observers, being alert and new to their work, report every suspicious light seen off shore, and frequently at-

A Perfect System In Operation From Main to Texas. tach serious significance to it. Since After several weeks of work along Captain Bartlett has answered some of the entire stretch of the Atlantic and the scare reports with the laconic mes-sage "Sea serpent," the observers have been more cautious, and the reports show evidences of careful observation. With the system in its present perfected condition, the navy

department feels assured that it knows exactly the condition of affairs along the entire stretch of Atlantic and Gulf coasts. The system is simply a precautionary one, as the department has had no reason to believe that Spanish ships were menacing points along the coast.

## WITH A 13-INCH GUN.

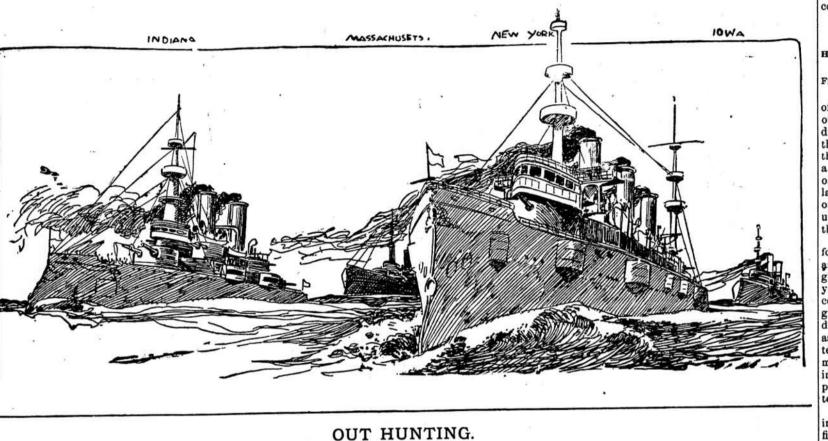
How the Monster Is Served and Some Information About It.

From Harper's Weekly.

"I am told," said Captain Higginson of the battleship Massachusetts, now of the flying squadron, "that the Indiana put a shell from her 13-inch gun through a target at 2,000 yards, and then went through the same hole with a second shell. Pretty good work for one of these fellows," and the muscu-lar little captain stroked the muzzle of one of the four 13-inch guns that make up the main battery of the big ship of the line.

Don't get out a tape measure or a foot rule and measure off 13 inches and wonder to what portion of the gun that refers, because it would avail you little, but rather listen to the account of the stupendousness of this great engine of destruction of modern days. A 13-inch breech-loading rifle, as the biggest gun used in the navy is technically described, is a piece of metal weighing 136,000 pounds, a few inches over 39 feet in length and with a powder space of 15.5 inches in diameter and 80.8 inches long.

The only reference to 13 inches is in the diameter of the steel projectile fired. This monstrous gun throws a projectile that weighs 1,100 pounds, and the amount of powder consumed for each shot so fired is 520 pounds. The explosion of this powder sends men stretched along the coast from this weight of 1,100 pounds of metal Bar Harbor, Me., to Galveston, Texas. from the muzzle at the speed of 2,100 feet per second, and with an energy of 32,627 tons-enough to send it through there are four of these terrible engines. It is a bright, clear day, a Massachusetts has sighted an enemy's warship. The preliminary work of clearing for action has been accomplished; railings, ladders and boats are down and have been stowed away, and everything movable in the big ship fastened. The glass port lights have been replaced with steel, the watertight compartments closed, the electric plant for lighting the ship, turning the turrets and working the ammunition lifts started; the ammunition magazines opened, and, lastly, the sick bay The towers are completed and also the small houses for their living pur- prepared. poses. There are 233 of these militia-In the forward turret with the great men now in service. The next step pair of 13 inch rifles stand a crew of twelve men, six to each gun. In the was to have the lighthouse service made an adjunct to this coast observahood of the turret, just above the men, sits a senior officer, and a junior tion. This was done through the coofficer. "Silence !" is the first comand the lighthouse force of 1,200 men mand, and grimly the half-naked men scattered from Maine to Texas are of the gun crew stand behind the guns. 'Cast loose and provide," sharply assisting the work of observation. The life saving service was brought rings the order, and every man is ininto similar co-operation, so that now stantly working. The gun captain and number two, 1.060 life-savers are added to the observation force. The 34 central stathree and four, who are the practical tions, with the numerous lighthouses gunners, unshackle the great monster and life saving stations, make a comfrom its peace fastenings; one sees plete chain of observation points, all that repair tools and cleaners are placed, gets water and hose ready; connected by telegraph or telephone with one another and with the navy another opens the safety valves and exhaust pipes, starts the smoke fan By arrangement with the telegraphic and ships the sight ; and another provides drinking water and does a dozen servers take precedence over the pri- other things. But all is done within vate telegraphic business, so that the a space of four minutes, and again vate telegraphic business, so that the navy department is able to get imme- each man in his place stands like a



When Admiral Dewey was forced to leave Hong Kong with his fleet, he was practically compelled to fight for his life. That he succeeded so brill-iantly does not in the least affect the declaration left him in most desperate straits. as he was over 8.000 miles from straits, as he was over 8,000 miles from home and having no port in which he could enter for more than the strength of her possessions are her operations by want of coal. A study them. her operations by want of coal. A study them. list of England's coaling fortified sta-tions will Law super these when the England and the United States tions will, I am sure, amaze those who that England and the United States have never given any consideration to possess nearly 90 per cent. of the coal lantic are too fresh in the public mind the strength of nations in this partic of the world. The only other great ular. It has been well said that the coal fields outside of these countries Mediterranean is nothing more than are those in China. If England and shuffle. But whether of any interest vation towers and towers for the ob-NEED OF COALING STATIONS. "Coaling stations," said a naval ex-stations at Gibraltar, Malta and Cyprus understanding, therefore, that when a letter and the picture, and so some pert today, "are the great necessity of are what make it that in reality. No either one or the other was seriously a maritime power. It would be better nation of Europe could hope to com-for a warship to be without guns than pete with England in the Mediterra to be without coal; for if she should nean. England commands the en-need to be in fear of any great danger

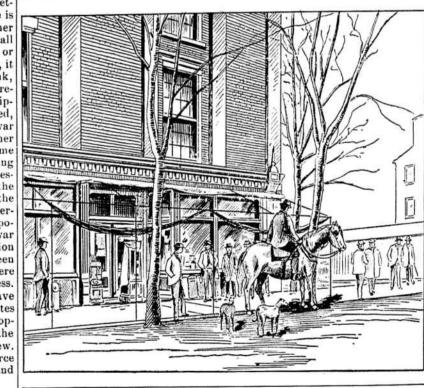
be enabled to cross the Pacific at a ing stations at Trinidad, Barbadoes, he received considerable attention. world, has said that a warship without maximum speed. Recent events have Jamaica and Belixel, off the coast of coal is like a wingless bird. The full maximum speed. Recent events have Panama. Off the Atlantic coast, force of this analogy has been impress. ed upon the American people in the this would be to us that it is unneces- about opposite the city of Charleston,

It will be remembered that young McQuary promised to write a letter to These are divided into 34 central stashe has the Island of Bermuda, which THE ENQUIRER on his return from tions about 60 to 100 miles apart along sarp to dwell upon it. "England has thoroughly realized has been recently very strongly forti- Cuba, and as a matter of interest, the coast. The stations are in turn

could enter for refuge or to recoal. The difficulties Spain has had to encounter to get her fleet across the Atto need repetition.

have coal and be without guns she would at least have a chance of getting away, but left without coal she is at the mercy of the enemy. Whether the United States government shall decide to give up the Philippines or not when peace has been restored, it may be taken for granted, I think, that this government will at least retain one coaling station in the Philippines, which will be strongly fortified, so that in the future, in case of war between this country and any other power, our Asiatic fleet will have some harbor of refuge. Our lack of coaling stations and the advantage of possessing them in such a situation as the country finds itself at present is the reason for the strong revival of interest in the Hawaiian annexation proposition. If it had not been for the war with Spain, Hawaiian annexation would almost certainly have been beaten, but now it looks as if there was a splendid chance of its success. Naval and military strategists have long contended that the United States needed those islands as a base for operations in the Pacific, and now the public is coming around to that view. Modern ships of war and commerce need facilities for frequent coaling and for frequent docking for repairs.

"A neutral port can not be used as through the Suez Canal to Saigon. which the German fleet under Prince actual alliance." for this to be done, and the matter of sea. They are the islands of Mauri-sending relief to Dewey would be one tius off Madagascar, Cape Colony, ry. of very much greater difficulty than it is under present circumstances. With lon and Calcutta. In the China sea



This was emphasized during the ing stations at the entrance to the maining great powers of the earth out his contract with you folks, is throughout the night on the lookout ded, one-half that quantity necessary, Franco-Tonquin war, when England refused to allow French ships to coal mouth of that sea, make her also the Simuth of that sea, make her also the second sea the second sea the Simuth of that sea the second sea the s at Singapore, and France was forced mistress of those waters. The public States and Spain would result in some to send coal transports from Marseilles will recall the great ostentation with such understanding even if there is no

Spain likewise will be obliged to Henry left for Asiatic waters several send transports through the Suez canal months ago. That fleet was obliged in case she intends any attempt to to coal at English coaling stations recapture the Philippines. Hawaii three times on its way to its destinanot having declared neutrality, our tion, and if England were to refuse to ships which will go to the relief of furnish Germany with coal tomorrow Amiral Dewey will be enabled to re- Prince Henry's fleet would never be coal at that port. If Hawaii was in able to get back. England has a numthe possession of a hostile or even ber of coaling stations off the east neutral power it would be impossible coast of Africa, and in the Arabian

FEAR IN BATTLE .- "When you hear

a soldier say that he would as soon ments and tell him for me that he is Sheridan after listening to an officer

"I have been in as many battles as the "fray" near Manila, that I shall into port. any of them, perhaps, and I am not hear of him being in this country by Captain Hawaii in our possession and Pearl England has a well fortified coaling ashamed to say that I was scared the 10th of next month, at the farth-Harbor fortified and stored with coal, station at Singapore. She has also every time, and sometimes my knees est. We need fear no attack from across recently acquired a coaling station in almost knocked together. The truly He has shown extraordinary grit, so periors would of the approach of any

uation began to grow more and more to establish the points of observation critical about that time, and the young 34 central points from Maine to Texas, traveler appeared to be lost in the rush orders were given to build obseror not, THE ENQUIRER had promised servators. The naval militia was a letter and the picture, and so some drawn on to make the different observation towers, and five militiamen, weeks ago wrote to McQuary's friend, with the rank of naval quartermaster, M. S. Glenn, at Mountain Grove, Mo., are now on duty at each of these sta asking as to his whereabouts. The tions.

reply was not received until last Tuesday. It reads as follows, and the Mc-Quary cut will be found elsewhere in this issue :

MOUNTAIN GROVE, MO., May 22, 1898. Editor Yorkville Enquirer :

letter of inquiry from you in regard to operation of the treasury department, Nearly four weeks ago, I received a Mr. T. Allen McQuary, and while I am ashamed that it has never before been answered, I assure you the reason was because I kept thinking "the next day" would undoubtedly bring tidings from the young man. But I have heard nothing from him since he was just in the act of entering the Suez canal, at Port Said, Egypt. He succeeded admirably in fulfilling

his contract as to Cuba, and after returning to this country, he "stowed department. away" at New Orleans on the steamer

"Indrani," and was not heard of again until at Gibraltar, Spain, and Port companies, the reports from these ob-Said, Egypt.

I should have heard from him by this time from Yokohama, I supposed; but probably he has not had time diate notice of the approach of any statue of bronze.

enough to get me a letter from there, hostile fleet or suspicious ship. The The ammunition has come up prework of observation has been thor- pared with fuses, and then come the although I am confident he has reached that point ere this. I will receive oughly systematized. Watches are orders, in quick succession, "Open a telegram the moment he sets foot on kept on the towers throughout the breech, sponge, land shell." The American soil at San Francisco, and will immediately notify you after-in particular are assigned to night big 1,100-pound steel projectile. "Load wards. The reason he could not carry duty, and they patrol the beach first cartridge," and the brown pow-

ed out," made the acquaintance of the and other paraphernalia for signaling. stant by "prime," when the captain captain (the crew knew he was on—in The results already secured have puts in the electric primer.

captain (the crew knew he was on-in shown the efficiency of the plans fact, helped him to conceal his trunk, etc., and hide himself until a thousand adopted. Naval vessels passing along fight as eat, or that he can go into miles or more from America), and that the coast are able to signal day or the officer in the hood above responds battle without feeling the least bit they were now fast friends, etc. Said night by torches and otherwise with afraid, just present him my compli- he had become considerably hardened the naval observers along the beaches. to the life of a "salt," and was get- The signals are immediately telegrapheither a fool or a liar," said General ting along very nicely, although the ed to the navy department here. Thus climatic changes went somewhat se- the maval vessels can be kept in constant communication with the depart-I think, unless he got mixed up in ment without the necessity of coming goes on its path of destruction. So every one of the 26 rifled guns begin

Captain Bartlett sleeps throughout the night alongside the telegraph in- loose.

Of course, in his letter to me from pliances for marine observation. They more. "Close breech," comes the or-Egypt, he said he had already "crawl- are also supplied with torches, rockets der quickly, and followed in an in-

Then the captain of the gun, seeing everybody clear, says "ready," and with "point." Slowly both turrets and gun are moved until the range finder indicates that the muzzle is pointing at the enemy. Then, quick as a flash, the officer in the turret hood closes the electric circuit and the big projectile

to speak, and "Hell has indeed broken

California has women tramp.

boasting about his coolness and brave- verely with him for awhile.