

ENGLAND has voted five million pounds to fit up her navy. To a foreigner it is rather interesting to watch the quaking Englishman as he reads of the inadequacy (often imaginary) of the "walls of England." An idea has struck our sanctum, as though fired from a man-o'-war, that the navy is all right, that the deficiency is in the pockets of the English shipbuilders. The builders on the Clyde and elsewhere may be running short of work, may in some manner peculiar to monied men gain the ear and pen of journalists, and the thundering alarms of the great London daily may be but the opening boom of a greater boom that will enrich the builders. The Canadian navy might also be in a most precarious condition had we only a few energetic, influential shipbuilders in need of fortunes.

THE *Varsity* put on a neat holiday attire, and showered on its readers a profusion of literary buds and blossoms. Take it all in all, the Christmas number was equal to all previous numbers of the year combined. The first interrogation is by Dr. Wilson, who asks—

Did ever on painter's canvas live
 The power of his fancy's dream?
 Did ever poet's pen achieve
 Fruition of his theme?
 Did marble ever take the life
 That the sculptor's soul conceived?
 Or ambition win in passion's strife
 What its glowing hopes believed?
 Did ever racer's eager feet
 Rest as he reached the goal,
 Finding the prize achieved was meet
 To satisfy the soul?

DARWIN'S BELIEF.—"Unquestionably Dr. Darwin was a theist, and one of a very reverential tone of mind. There are hundreds of passages in his works which imply this, where it is not stated in so many words. The last paragraph in his 'Origin of Species,' however, is most explicit on the subject. Thus it runs: 'There is grandeur in this view of life, with its several powers, having been originally breathed by the Creator into a