

foot. The fun threatened to end fatally, but although he was carried away insensible he recovered after a few hours—to ride a giraffe never more forever.—*Little Folks.*

OUR SERVICE CONTEMPORARIES.

According to a report current at Chatham, the "Blake" will in a short time be relieved by a cruiser of the "Crescent" class, and will return to England to pay off. From a recent letter from the "Blake," however, it is evident that her officers were not generally aware of any such impending change, while the fact that a new armament was not long since sent out to Bermuda for her, rather argues against its probability. We do not expect to see her home until after February next, when her time will be up.—"Army and Navy Gazette."

The German Emperor is far ahead of his subjects in his understanding of Sea Power, and is an enthusiast in all that concerns the sea. His third son has just entered the Navy, and the address which the Emperor delivered at Kiel on the occasion deserves to be quoted in these columns, both as illustrating this and as embodying sentiments of comradeship with England:—

"By Imperial Rescript I have to-day enrolled my son, Prince Adalbert of Prussia, in the German Navy. His name shows that he was destined from his birth to the hardy life of a sailor. His entrance to-day into the Navy is a symbolical act with a threefold meaning. It teaches him that every Prussian Prince, as soon as he is ten years old, must understand that his whole energies have to be devoted to the service of the Fatherland; secondly, it is a proof of my own affection for the Navy; and, lastly, it is a sign of the confidence I place in the Navy. The history of the Navy is yet young. It has not yet been granted laurels of victory in battle, but whenever it has shown itself it has done credit to Germany. The month in which Prince Adalbert joins the Naval service is full of great memories for the history of the Fatherland. Stirring names recall splendid traditions. I need only remind you of Hohenfriedberg and Waterloo, where Prussian and British soldiers fought shoulder to shoulder against the enemy. And who will not, in this month of June more especially, remember the Emperor Frederick, to whom it was also granted to wield the German sword with such glorious results? Your task is to keep your steel whetted, so that if ever—which God forbid—the time should come for me to call upon you, you should acquit yourselves, not only honourably, but gloriously."

In connection with the defence of harbours against torpedo boat raids, it has always been recognised by the Naval Service that the electric light will play a large and important part. It matters not how fast they steam, or how well they may be handled, against expert handy gunners these flimsy craft can stand no chance when they come out of the darkness. It was therefore some time ago suggested in these columns, that for the protection by night of a fleet at anchor behind Plymouth or Portland breakwater, a continuous broad band of

electric light thrown across the entrance would probably prove of the greatest efficiency. A difficulty was, that with the increasing speed of the torpedo boats, this bend or zone of light must be very wide, otherwise the time they will be under fire will be insufficient to make certain of destroying them. We understand that some experiments have recently been made to use photography, or a development of that art, to lessen this chance of a boat crossing the band of light without being seen and hit. Electric lights were fixed on board gunboats moored at some little distance from and under the cover of batteries of quick firing-guns, in which were placed the cameras. Torpedo-boats being sent outside the harbour for the purpose of trying to effect an entrance unseen, were immediately they entered the lighted zone caught in the camera and instantaneously photographed, a replica of which being thrown on a white screen representing the plan of the harbour, the movements of the boats were continuously and distinctly traced during the whole of their course, thus enabling the gunners to keep them under fire the whole time. If these experiments were actually what they are said to have been, and as successful as we are assured, photography may become an important adjunct to the harbour defence.

A marriage has been arranged, and will shortly take place, between Rear-Admiral A. H. Markham and Miss Dora Gervers, daughter of Mr. Francis T. Gervers, of Brighton, late of Kimberley, South Africa.

We have waited in vain says the United Service Gazette for an explanation of the remarkable treatment of Lieut.-Colonel F. J. Fox, R.A., which, we consider, left him, as a self-respecting officer, no possible alternative but to resign the position of Commandant of the Military Forces of New Zealand. The Premier of the colony, who is also Defence Minister, seems to have tried to thwart Colonel Fox in every way. In fact, the latter would appear to have been kept in a position of utter and complete uselessness—a mere dummy, powerless to prevent the gross improprieties committed on all sides under Ministerial approval in the force which he had been brought out from home to reorganise and render effective. Instead of that force being consolidated, improved, and rendered effective, he was compelled to look on every day at its growing less efficient and more disorganised as it dwindled away. We cannot wonder at a British officer refusing to continue to work under such anomalous conditions.

Mr. Fred. T. Jane has been exhibiting at his studio at 12A, Edith-terrace, Fulham-road, a series of extremely interesting studies and sketches made during his trips to sea in various types of war vessels during the naval manœuvres. Among the principal of these we may mention "The Children of Nelson," some torpedo-boats of the No. 80 class attack-

ing a battleship, while at a little distance the remaining vessels of the fleet are opening fire, and a beam from the electric search-light is just catching the stern of the boat. "Bagged" is another picture which recalls incidents of last year's manœuvres, for it represents a cruiser torpedoed in a fog. A third should certainly find a resting place at Whale Island, for it is entitled "A Hopeless Attempt"; it shows some torpedo-boats advancing in line, and more coming out from the shadow of the clouds, while the ships in the distance which they had intended to surprise are opening fire. Other pictures show the fleet at steam tactics, in gales, and under varying conditions familiar to seamen, besides a number of sketches in black and white founded on studies made at sea. Mr. Jane revels in a torpedo-boat, and there is probably no professional artist who has had a wider experience at sea of these ticklish craft, and their congeners the torpedo-gunboats of the "Rattlesnake" and "Seagull" class. This year we suppose he will seek glory and sketches in a "Hornet" and a "Daring."

The German Emperor presented Colonel Tomkinson, of the 1st Royal Dragoons, with a gold cigarette-case bearing the Imperial monogram, and Captain McMahon, 2nd Lieut. Prince Francis of Teck with similar souvenirs in silver and steel respectively. His Majesty also conferred upon Prince Francis the Grand Cross of the Red Eagle. The deputation of the 1st Royal Dragoon left Berlin on Thursday,

The command of the Grenadier Guards, which becomes vacant on the 17th prox., when Colonel Trotter completes the five years of his appointment, has been conferred upon Colonel L. J. Oliphant, half-pay, who formerly commanded the 3rd battalion of the regiment. The command of the Grenadier Guards carries with it also the command of the East London Volunteer Brigade of seven battalions, including the City and Town Hamlets corps.

A soldiers' friend has just passed from among us. The death of Miss Daniell will be felt as a personal bereavement by British soldiers of every rank and in every quarter of the globe. That noble lady devoted her life to the advancement of the best interests of the officers and men. Her Soldiers' Home at Aldershot was the first of its kind ever opened at that station, and the branch establishments which she founded in London and in other garrison towns have long been centres of light and usefulness. Miss Daniell was a tender-hearted Christian, whose influence on the soldiers was all of the highest and best. She has not lived in vain for, in spite of discouragement, she set a splendid example, and unnumbered blessings will be called down on her memory.