



# Your Duty is Plain! You MUST Go! Why Not To-Day?

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## The German Long Range Gun.

A Development of Long-Established Principles of Design.

The German long-range gun, which is bombarding Paris, has a value more spectacular than military. The principles that govern the construction of such a gun have been familiar to artillerymen, and the materials for its construction have been available, for many years past. The Allies have not built any such gun for the reason that there was no military use to which it could be put. Furthermore, its unwieldy length and weight, its great cost and its very limited life, due to erosion, have been recognized as rendering it, when built, an impracticable weapon under the existing conditions of warfare, either on land or sea.

The construction of an enormously costly gun, such as this, can be justified only if it is highly efficient; and a gun that shoots so far that it is impossible to plot the fall of the shots is so inefficient as to be practically valueless. No airplane would be allowed to circle over Paris for observation, and if it could do so, its wireless would not carry to the gun. The feat of throwing a shell over 70 miles is unprecedented and sensational; but the design and construction of such a gun does not call for any radical change in the theories, materials, or practice of gun construction. If we could visit the emplacement, we should find there probably, a built-up, rifled, steel, 9½ inch gun, that differed from the ordinary high-powered, high-velocity gun only in the great size of its powder chamber and in the great length of the bore.

The Allied nations could have built such a gun, built a dozen of them, if they had wished to do so. But seeing that they are in this war to smash Prussia, and not to play to the gallery, or to do circus tricks, and certainly not to practice frightfulness, they have been content to build guns that would hit their military objectives up to the limit of distance which observation of the target is practicable.

So far as the gun is concerned, the distance to which a shell of given caliber and weight can be thrown depends upon the velocity with which it leaves the muzzle of the gun; and the muzzle velocity depends upon the size of the powder charge, the mean pressure of the powder gases upon the base of the shell, and the time during which this pressure is exerted; which last condition depends on the length of the bore.

So that when the German or Austrian artilleryman, or whoever it was, had decided to use a 9½ inch shell, all he had to do was to select his powder, and then design a 9½ inch gun with an unusually big powder chamber and a sufficiently long barrel to secure a sufficiently high muzzle velocity to carry the shell to Paris, a distance of

70 miles.

The construction of the gun would not present any special difficulty, except that the great length and weight of the barrel would cause it to sag or droop at the muzzle. To prevent this, the gun has either been stiffened by a vertical truss, or (and this is more likely) it is mounted for its full length upon the sloping face of a concrete base, inclined at 43½ degrees—the angle of elevation which gives the greatest range. In this case, the gun can neither be elevated nor traversed—and, theoretically, the shots should fall, practically, in the same spot. This, according to despatches, is exactly what is happening—the dispersion of the shots being due to varying atmospheric conditions, and not to intelligent aiming of the gun.

It is an odd coincidence that, two weeks before this gun made its appearance, we should have drawn attention to the fact that, 20 years ago, a wire-wound gun was designed whose maximum range, as calculated by Colonel Ingalls, our greatest authority on ballistics, was about fifty miles. Now, that gun was only 45 calibers, or 38 feet in length, and its powder chamber, though larger than usual was not abnormally large. Its powder pressure was higher than is allowed in our Army and Navy guns. The heat of the powder gases, due to the high pressure necessary to secure 4,000 foot-second velocity was so great, that the rifling would have been burned out of the gun in a very few rounds. In firing tests of a previous 5 inch gun of the Brown type, the powder charge was increased until a muzzle velocity of 3,850 feet per second was secured; so that there is little doubt that, with the 10 inch gun it would have been possible, had it been put to the extreme test, to secure the calculated maximum muzzle velocity of 4,000 feet per second.

Judged as a problem of construction, we do not hesitate to say that a wire-wound gun could be built that would throw a 9½ inch shell for a distance of 70 miles or more. In the case of the 45-caliber Brown, wire-wound gun it would have been sufficient to enlarge the powder chamber, increase the number of wire windings; lengthen the gun from 45 to, say, 75 calibers; stiffen it against drooping by means of a steel truss or a vertical plate girder below the gun, and then provide a powder that would give the necessary mean pressure to develop the required muzzle velocity.—Scientific American.

## Charlie Mitchell Dead.

Former English Champion Pugilist Passes Away.

Hove, England, April 3.—Charlie Mitchell, one time middleweight champion of England, died here to-day of locomotor ataxia.

Mitchell was born at Birmingham, Eng., November 24, 1861. Although he fought many ring battles against

big men, his weight was never more credited than 165 lbs. His remarkably fast foot work and skilful boxing offset this disadvantage in weight. He had a stiff punch, and most of his English battles were with bare knuckles.

After winning the middleweight championship of England in 1882, Mitchell came to America in 1885, and after defeating Mike Cleary in 3 rounds, met John L. Sullivan in a four-round bout. Mitchell surprised the 12,000 spectators by meeting Sullivan's rushes in the opening rounds, and scored a clean knock down with a right smash to Sullivan's jaw, sending the Boston man to the floor amid the wildest excitement.

Sullivan with left swings to the jaw knocked Mitchell down twice in the third round and with another left he had Mitchell hanging over the ropes when the police stopped the bout. Mitchell always insisted that he would have been able to continue had the police not interfered and he never ceased to challenge Sullivan until the latter consented to another encounter, which took place five years later at Chantilly, France. In the meantime he boxed a four round bout draw with Jake Kilrain, two draws from Jack Burke, lost to Dominic McCaffrey in four rounds, and drew with Patsy Cardiff.

In his fight with Sullivan they fought with bare knuckles for 39 rounds for \$2,500 a side, and the bout lasted three hours and eleven minutes. Mitchell drew first blood in the eighth round but Sullivan got the credit of a knockdown. The bout was declared a draw by mutual consent.

After Corbett won the world's championship from Sullivan, Mitchell challenged him, and at Jacksonville, Fla., on January 25, 1894, Corbett knocked out the Englishman in the third round. This was Mitchell's last fight in the ring.

## Play Up to Them.

Americans have learned almost as many new things about the English in this war as they have learned about the Germans or about the French; and this applies not only to those whose previous knowledge of the race had been limited to legends of Pitcairn and Tableton, but to Americans who thought they knew England well. It applies, for that matter, to Englishmen who thought they knew England well, and who were sadly disturbed by the drift of social and intellectual movements in the reigns of Edward and George. But surely of the many impressive lessons that England has given to her allies in the last four years there is none finer than the temper of the English people under the stress of the great battle.

In matters like this, immediacy of presentment carries a good deal of weight. The unsurpassed heroism of the French people since the war began might not have been attained at a single bound if the war had not been carried at once into French soil, where memories of 1871 were still alive. So England had to work up to it. In the first month of the war, when only the few thousands of the first expeditionary force were engaged, when the great citizen armies of England were still to be levied, when things were obviously only beginning, the temper of the British people was admirable but not perfect. There was easy credulity for impossible good news, a certain amount of reaction between desperate pessimism and baseless optimism.

To-day, when the whole nation is in arms and the fate of the people literally hangs on the outcome, the British race as a whole seems to be displaying all of the admirable qualities that have characterized the individual Briton in times of hurry and danger. To half-ready America, watching from three thousand miles away as a one-legged man watches his brother struggling in the stream, the steadiness and grave confidence

of the British people ought to be an example as good as the unforeseen humor of the British soldier in the long years of trench warfare. We have troubles of our own, but our allies, in the face of much more urgent if not greater danger, are showing us how to bear them.

There are classic instances of public steadfastness—the Athenians with Hannibal under the walls; to say that the British this week are worthy companions of these peoples is not to say enough. Say that they are worthy of the French since the first day of August, 1914, and you have said it all.—(N. Y. Times.)

## A Story of a Masterpiece.

Mouldering away on the wall of an old mansion in Milan, Italy, hangs the famous "Last Supper" of Leonardo da Vinci. Like every masterpiece, the painting required many years of patient labour, and as a result of that labour it is perfect in its naturalness of expression and sublime in its story of love. In addition to these qualities, it has an incident in its history that contributes not a little toward making it the great teacher that it is. It is said that the artist, in painting the faces of the apostles, studied the countenances of good men whom he knew. When, however, he was ready to paint the face of Jesus in the picture he could find none that would satisfy his conception; the face that would satisfy his conception; the face that would serve as a model for the face of Christ must be dignified in its simplicity and majestic in its sweetness. After several years of careful search, the painter happened to meet one Pietro Bandinelli, a choir boy of exquisite voice, belonging to the Cathedral. Being struck by the beautiful features and tender manner that bespoke an angelic soul, the artist induced the boy to be the study for the painting of the face of Jesus. All was done most carefully and reverently, but the picture was as yet incomplete for the face of Jesus was absent. Again the painter, with the zeal of a true lover of his art, set about in search of a countenance that might serve for the face of the traitor. Some years passed before his search was rewarded and the picture finally completed. As the artist was about to dismiss the miserable and degraded wretch who had been his awful choice, the man looked up at him and said: "You have painted me before." Horrified and dumb with amazement, the painter learned that the man was Pietro Bandinelli. During those intervening years Pietro had been at Rome studying music, had met with evil companions, had given himself up to drinking and gambling, had fallen into shameful dissipation and crime. The face that now was the model for the face of Jesus had once been the model for the face of Christ.—The New World.

## Household Notes.

Plum duff is made of flour and baking powder, molasses, raisins and prunes.

The secret of good butter is scrupulous cleanliness and correct temperature.

Some forms of wheat cereals are delicious eaten cold with cream and no sugar.

Marble should be washed with ammonia and water rather than soap and water.

Nuts may sometimes take the place of meat, but should be very carefully chewed.

Loose chamotte gloves are excellent to wear when gardening or doing any dirty work.

In making bread pudding, the bread-crumbs should be beaten smooth with the custard.

If you are mending a badly torn

Nowadays it is polite to return any sugar you do not mean to use to the sugar bowl.

Rye bread should be very thoroughly baked—in fact this is true of all the war breads.

Plenty of green vegetables should appear on the table as soon as the weather gets warm.

A good spring dessert is made of

ordinary gelatine with strawberries scattered through it.

If food lacks flavor it will not be properly digested. Therefore, have your food attractive.

Honey is such a wholesome sweet that the children should be allowed a liberal allowance of it.

A good meat salad is made with

chopped cold meat, cold boiled potatoes, onion and parsley.

Olive oil should be regularly used as an article of diet to make butter less necessary.

A scratch on polished furniture is almost obliterated by rubbing vigorously with linseed oil.

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of you!



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OR

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## WHAT THEN

?

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