

The trial trip of the Imperial German ironclad frigate, *Kaiser*, 5,000 tons, and 1,000 horse power, was made on Thursday at the Maplin Sands, in the presence of the commissioners appointed by the German Government to be present and receive the vessel from the contractors. The trials were conducted in strict accordance with the arrangements followed in the English Navy for men-of-war. The mean of six runs over the measured mile, with full power, gave 14.56 knots per hour, and the mean of the runs with half boiler power gave 12.78 knots per hour. The result was considered most satisfactory, being more than half a knot in excess of the contract speed promised by Messrs. Samuda Brothers, the builders. The vessel, on reaching Germany, is to be armed with nine of Krupp's steel guns, each twenty-two tons weight, and is one of the most formidable ironclads yet built.

By advices of the 5th ult., we learn that H.M.S. *London*, with a crew of nearly 700 had arrived in Zanzibar after a good passage of thirty one days from Simon's Bay. She carried no less than nineteen boats, and already the Arabs began to be afraid, and talked of living on the mainland. The murderers of Mr. Heale had been traced by Vice Consul Holmwood, who had been on a tour of inspection to the Bewadir, Lamoo, and Mombasa. The inland slave traffic increased in extent and proportion and was an organized business. The *London* was stationed as permanent guard-ship at Zanzibar. Her Majesty's steamships *Nassau*, *Liffeman*, and *Flying Fish* were on the station.

The French Government has been making some important experiments in the breaking up of old cast-iron guns with dynamite. These guns abound in the coast-towns, but the obstacle to their effective removal and disposal has been their weight, and hence they have been broken up as old metal. The experiments were made by the Artillery at Rennes and Brest, when, according to the *Revue d'Artilerie*, the weight of the eight guns and mortars experimented upon amounted to 34,053 kilogrammes, and 35,472 kilogrammes per ton of dynamite were used.

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A. E. BLUNT, P. M., Cleveland, Tenn.
I have cultivated the JAPANESE PEA, the past year and raised them at the rate of 20 bushels to the acre. They bloom excels buckwheat for bees. F. E. HARDWICK, J. P. Bradley County.

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