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It was at a charity dinner that careless waiter spilled a plate of soup over one of the clergymen present.

"What—," he commenced. Then, remembering himself, he turned to his neighbor and asked: "Will some layman kindly say a few words appropriate to the occasion?"—Tid-Bits.

"I thought you quit drinking."

"Oi did."

"Then what are you drinking that for?"

"For what other rason should it be than to kape me will power up to sticking point?"—Indianapolis Star.

The Gunboats Forward a

ORTY years ago on the 24th of November last there was tried be fore the Supreme Court sitting a Victoria and presided over be Chief Justice Cameron a suit for damages against a naval commander. The damages asked were 25,000 golden do lars. The plaintiff was Mr. Charle William Allen, editor and one of the owners of the Evening Express, an enterprising newspaper published by Messrs Wallace & Allen at Victoria. To defendant was Hon. Horace Dongla Lascelles, lieutenant commanding Her defendant was Hon. Horace Dougle Lascelles, lieutenant commanding He Majesty's gunboat Forward. Lascelle was a scion of the influential and noble the most general was a scion of the influential and noble as the colonial shopkeepers. He was the colonial shopkeepers. He was one of the most genial and pleasar gentlemen one would care to mee Lord Charles Beresford, now Admire Beresford and one of Britain's braves sailors, was on this station at the tim of which I write. He was a lleutenan on the warship Clio and had inherite the mischievous traits of his ancestors. In a previous chapter I have narrate his prank at Honolulu where he to the command of the mischievous traits of his ancestors. In a previous chapter I have narrated his prank at Honolulu where he tore down the American coat of arms and was forced by the commander of his ship to climb a ladder and restore the emblem to its place over the U. S. consul's office. Here our future fighting admiral was often in hot water, but every one liked him. Even old Driard of the Colonial Hotel smiled blandly when Lord Charles one afternoon mounted a marble-top table in the restantant and proceeded to knock down in true London auctioneer's style the contents of the hotel larder, which was composed of a sucking pig with a roast anyle in, his mouth, dressed fat fowls and a few dishes of sweet meats. The bidders were all subs and midshipmen from the men of war. I think the pig brought three shillings and a turkey sold for a half dollar. The auctioneer made many witty remarks in calcilling the articles offered, and having disposed of everything he paid Driard for the articles at the full rates and sent them by van to the Clio, where the young fellows had a glorious feast the following night. Commander Lascelles maintained a phaeton and a dog-cart and several horses. He also maintained at a little cottage on the Esquimait road not far from the Admiral's road a number of young English friends who had gone broke at the mines and were waiting for money to take them home.

ber of young English friends who had gone broke at the mines and were waiting for money to take them home. It was stated that Lascelles spent about \$15,000 a year in Victoria and as he was the best of pay the reader will understand why he was a very well diked young man. There is a vast difference in the behavior of naval officers and men then and now. Then money was plentiful—everyone having a goodly share. The officers, mostly the sons of rich fathers, were a happy-go-lucky lot and the sailors were as free and easy in their habits as their superiors. While the officers were gentlemen and generally comported them selves as such, the sailors were a wild and untamable lot. On every liberty day Esquimalt road was lined with half-drunken tars wending their way to the town and when the town was reached the streets were filled with hundreds of men from the ships, singing, and shouting and sometimes fighting. A sailor on horseback was a ludicroas sight; I used to pity the horses. The Jacks were beyond pity, for although many were thrown few were hurt. Today one scarcely knows when the men are ashore they are so quiet and well-behaved. A police court case in which men-or warsmen are involved is a rare occur rence. Then it was almost a daily event But turbulent and dissipated as the old-time sailors were they were never guilty of offences against citizens or their property. The trouble was all between them. time sailors were they were never guilty of offences against citizens or their prop-erty. The trouble was all between them-selves and if they were finally landed at the barracks the sentences imposed were usually very light.

Commander Lascelles never made any introus pretentions nor posed as a moral sman and yet he was a kind hearted fellow and was constantly helping some poor devil out of a financial hole or a scrape of some kind. The sister ship of the Forward was the gunboat Grappler. She was commanded by Lieut. Blank, eldest son of Sir Harold Blank. He was a very religious tand proper young person. He was leader in every movement with a good ebject. Charity balls, tea fights, lectures and readings either found Mr. Blank in the chair or not far from it. On Sundays he read prayers as a lay-reader at the Cathedral. I have no reason to think that he was not sincere at that time and I admired him for his professions and practice in that unGodly vera.

But to return to the celebrated case of Allen vs. Lascelles, A serious disturbance had broken out among the Cowichan Indians. They had been tuned to the fighting pitch with Victoriamade whisky and were ripe for the commission of any atrocity. Having tired of fighting among themselves they turned on the settlers, destroying one or two homesteads and killing two farmers. The Forward was sent to investigate. The Indians fired upon her, killing a young sailor named Newcombe. The Forward returned for instructions and effective ammunition. The Express quoted these well-known and variously-ascribed lines from Ray:

"He who fights and runs away, May live to fight another day," and denounced the Forward for coming the control of the control

"He who fights and runs away.

May live to fight another day,"
and denounced the Forward for coming away without wreaking vengeance on the savages. The article gave great offence to the navy. The Forward had returned to the scene immediately after securing the information and had bombarded the villages, killing many and destroying the lodges. A few days later she returned to her anchorag in James Bay and two sailors were a sent ashore in a small boat to invite the Mr. Allen to come aboard with Commander Lascelles' compliments. Allen responded and upon addressing Lascelles was ordered to the forecastie. He dehaurred and the two sailors who had abrought him off conducted him to the forecastle steps and he descended. There she was kept a prisoner by the two sailors for about an hour. Meanwhile the Forward raised her anchor and was steaming out of the harbor, when Allen, evading his guard, reached a spot where the commander was conning his shin and demanded to be told why he had been subjected to this outrage.

"Go below, sir!" said Lascelles in a knowledge whereupon the commander pushed him away with his foot (Allen swore that he kicked him) and Allen leaped hut to the harbor off. Schl's Point, which, was then an Indian graveyard, and struck out for the shore, for he was a brought hack to the ship. In the forecastle he was given a change of clothes the sind when the gunboat was off Beacon Hill shortly before dark he was put ashore and walked back to town. The dommander's offence was a very serious one. Had it occurred in England then, or were it to occur here today, severe punishment would have been visited up against ment would have been visited up a general and walked back to town. The dommander's offence was a very serious one. Had it occurred in England then, or were it to occur here today, severe punishment would have been visited up