

# That Cough

May lead to something worse.

TAKE

London Hospital Cough Cure,

And avert the danger.

Cochrane & Munn,

PRESCRIPTION DRUGGISTS,

Cor: Yates and Douglas Streets

## AN AMERICAN SHOT.

On the 30th January, Admiral Benham, of the United States navy, fired upon one of Admiral da Gama's Brazilian insurgent war-ships. He alleges he did it to impress the insurgents with the fact that when he said American interests in Rio harbor would be protected he meant it. The incident is a sensation of international interest, especially as German captains of navy have threatened to take similar action. Only one shot was fired that was intended to hit the target, but that was enough. It was a shell from the Detroit, and it sank into the rebel's stern post in a businesslike way that caused them to quickly hang out the signal for a cessation of hostilities.

The affair came about in this way: Several American merchantmen have been lying in Rio Harbor for some time now, anxious to discharge their cargoes at the wharves but fearing to do so because the rebel Admiral declared that he would fire upon them if they attempted it.

During a night attack upon the shore guard last week by rebels in launches two of these vessels, the Julia Rollins, from Baltimore, commanded by Capt. Kiehno, and the schooner Miffie J. H., from New York, commanded by Capt. Suttis, were fired on by the insurgents.

Complaint was made to the United States Admiral by these captains, and Admiral Benham at once informed Admiral Saldanha da Gama that United States vessels must be free to go and come anywhere within the harbor of Rio without fear of molestation of any kind. Da Gama demurred to this proposition, but did not formally repudiate it.

Accordingly Captain Blackford, commanding the American bark Amy, from Baltimore; Captain Myrick, commanding the American bark Good News, also from Baltimore, and Captain Kiehno, of the Julia Rollins, gave notice last Saturday that they were going to make fast their vessels to the Saudre piers. Admiral Da Gama at once sent word to Admiral Benham that if this attempt were made he would surely open fire upon the bold merchant men.

Admiral Benham immediately replied with spirit that the vessels would be protected in going to the piers by the Detroit and if further protection were needed the entire American squadron would see that the merchantmen got their rights.

The Detroit, accordingly, cleared her decks for action early Monday morning and started to lead the American vessels toward the wharves.

She had not gone far when Admiral da Gama signalled for the advancing fleet to come no further. Admiral Benham promptly signalled to the Detroit, "Go ahead!" and no sooner did Da Gama see

this than bang went one of his guns at the Detroit.

This shot hit nothing, so Captain Brownson, of the Detroit, was content to answer it only with a shot across the bows of the rebel man-of-war as a warning that he was in earnest.

Da Gama could not take a hint, however, and he fired again upon the Detroit. This showed Captain Brownson that further forbearance would be a mistake, so he let fly a small shell from one of his six inch guns.

This shell was intended to strike, and it did not miss the mark. It struck the stern post of the rebel ship with a crash that must have unpleasantly surprised the Brazilians, who were all unused to gunners who hit their target at the first discharge.

Without any more ado, and with all the speed possible, Da Gama signalled that he would cease firing, and doubtless he coupled it with a fervent prayer that the Yankee tars would see fit to do the same.

It was well he did so, for Captain Brownson was just preparing to give the rebel the benefit of a full broadside from his big guns, but noting the signal he mercifully forbore.

An American citizen, G. M. Rollins, who has acted as the agent of Admiral da Gama in the arbitration negotiations, had visited all three of the American merchantmen in the meantime and offered to have them towed at the expense of the insurgents if they would not go to the piers. This the captains of the merchantmen agreed to.

This arrangement was reported to Admiral da Gama on board his flagship, the Liberdade. He then said:—

"It is too late. The glass is broken. I must yield to this foreign fleet of superior force. I will resign and give my sword to the American Admiral."

Admiral da Gama called a council of his officers later in the day, expecting that all of them would seek an asylum on board the American fleet, but the younger officers would not yield.

It was stated at the council that Admiral Benham had offered Admiral da Gama and his officers asylum on board the American war ships.

What the final result of the trouble between the fleets will be is not known, but there is one thing that is evident to everybody, and that is that the American merchant vessels are protected in every part of the bay.

Admiral Benham said last night that Admiral da Gama, by his failure to surrender, had lost an easy way out of the trouble. He added:—

"However, that is nothing to me, but we have established our principle."

A conflict between the American and insurgent fleets is still possible. Admiral da Gama is angry because the younger officers are eager to fight. The Admiral said to a United Press correspondent:

"It would be better to be conquered by a foreign power than to yield later to Peixoto."

Admiral Benham said: "If Admiral da Gama was contending for any principle or position in which any civilized nation would sustain him he ought to make a fight, but he is wrong in law everywhere in opposing us."

The commander of the Austrian war-ship has asked Admiral Benham to be allowed to help in case of a fight. The German naval officers applaud Benham.

Admiral Benham now has two propositions regarding arbitration, but he will not reveal them. A settlement by such means, however, is a present improbable.

While angry at his decision, the insurgents comment upon Admiral Benham's great courtesy and tact in the negotiations.

## Popular Novelists in Scotland.

The Librarian of the Public Library at Edinburgh, Mr. Hew Morison, has been giving statistics showing the number of times the works of different authors had been perused in the Edinburgh Public Library since the date of its opening. The most popular of Scott's novels were "The Bride of Lammermoor," "Guy Mannering," "Redgauntlet," "The Betrothed," "The Pirate," and "Ivanhoe." Of Hardy's works, "Tess of the D'Urbervilles" had been in constant demand since its publication. Meredith's works were also extensively patronized in Edinburgh; and the difference between the highest and lowest of his works in popularity was very low indeed. Rider Haggard's also stood high in point of issue. "She" was least in demand, and "King Solomon's Mines" and "Jes" most popular. Robert Louis Stevenson's writings were in perpetual request, and the same might be said, though to a less extent, of William Black and George MacDonald. Of the lady writers "Ouida" and Mrs. Henry Wood took first place, followed by Annie Swan and Miss Yonge.—Westminster Budget.

## A Universal Friend.

Fruit is the poor man's friend, the rich man's luxury, the laborer's physician and the foe to patent medicine and quack doctors. There is no more royal road to health than that lined by trees of ripened fruit. The growth of trees, whether in the forest or in the orchard, takes from the soil the necessary nutriment both for the formation of wood and the development of fruit. To secure the most satisfactory development of fruit requires health and vigor of wood. But the growth of trees in a soil continually cropped is soil exhaustion, and if continued for a term of years with no restoration of fertilizing material, the conditions become unfavorable to any healthy growth of wood fibre. It is under such conditions as these that fruit rapidly deteriorates or fails of production.

## Farm Fagots.

Keep the calf growing from the start if the best grade of beef and the highest market rates are expected.

Hire the best help that can be found, and pay it what it is worth. One good, competent farm hand is worth two or three incompetents.

Sheep raising in Algeria is on the wane, despite the efforts of the French government to encourage it—the decline running through several years. At present the country claims 8,896,000 sheep.

## A Serious Smashup.

Spencer—What is the cause of Ponderly's illness? I hear he is laid up with nervous prostration.

Ferguson—Yes. The result of a mental accident.

Spencer—A mental accident!

Ferguson—Yes. A collision between two trains of thought.

Provision is to be made for greatly enlarging the British museum. Five and a half acres will be added to the nine acres already occupied, through purchase from the duke of Bedford.

A present of a hundred repeating rifles and eight thousand cartridges has just been made by the Austrian ministry of war to the Freeland association, which has started a socialist colony in Africa to preach and practice the protherhood of man.

An international exhibition of book and paper industries is to be opened in Paris in July next. It will comprise the various branches of the manufacture of books and paper, as well as the machinery, implements and material used in printing and illustrating books.