

HASZARD'S GAZETTE

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New Series, No. 152.

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THIS Powder, prepared by a practical Chemist, is a superior article for Washing Clothes. The process of using is simple and easy, and clothes without injury to the finest fabric. One package of this Powder will make two gallons of soft soap, superior in quality for all domestic use. Nothing exceeds this powder, after having been made into soft soap for removing grease spots from woollen clothes and carpets.

W. R. WATSON, General Agent for P. E. Island.

June 15, 1864.

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These invaluable Pills have been used with unparallelled success in private practice for more than thirty years, and are now offered to the public, with the fullest conviction that they will prove themselves a public benefit.

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W. R. WATSON, General Agent for P. E. Island.

FITTING OUT A MAN-OF-WAR.

The time of fitting out a ship is the most unpleasant part of the commission. One must either live in a hulk, and go backwards and forwards to boats several times a day, or take up quarters in some dirty inn where, until the ship is made habitable. What I wish to tell, however, is what the fitting out of a ship of war, and I flatter myself the information, taken as a whole, will be new to most readers.

It generally surprises any one who sees a ship of war at anchor in one of our harbours, when he is told that 1000, 500, or 150 persons, according to the size of the ship, live on board her. A corvette, with a crew of 150 men, does not appear, and really is not, larger than an ordinary merchant-ship of 500 or 600 tons, yet all these persons are boarded and lodged comfortably in their floating-home. But this is not all. The ship must carry a quantity of stores and provisions, which, if they were laid out on the shore, would fill a good-sized barn, and which any one could not put to board the little ship. In the first place, water and provisions for the whole crew must be carried for some months, to make the ship efficient. In our case, we carried a complete supply for five months; we had fifty-three tons of water, and the weight of the tanks containing this water was eleven tons. Then the weight of beef and pork, biscuit, peas and flour, sugar, tea, and cocoa, with other provisions, amounted to nearly twenty-five tons, the crates containing them weighing two tons and a quarter. In addition to this government supply of food and drink, the captain and officers take about seven tons of private stores for their own particular nourishment. Four tons of coal and wood; two tons of clothing, soap, medicines, tobacco, &c.; two hundredweight of medical stores; and a ton and a half of rum; with more than a ton of holy-stones and sand for cleaning the decks, would fill a moderate-sized warehouse. Then when we consider the weight of the good ship to carry, we must calculate upon twenty tons of ballast, and upon sixteen or seventeen tons as the weight of the men and boys, with their clothing and bedding. The bowsprit, masts, yards, and booms weigh more than twenty-four tons; the rigging, twenty tons; and there are more than four tons of blocks only, or what are better known to landmen as pulleys. The sails weigh two tons and a half, and there is the same weight of spare sails. There are sixteen tons of iron cable, and three tons of hempen cable. Four anchors weigh together more than seven tons; the boats more than three tons and a half. Then come the eighteen guns, which weigh together twenty-seven tons; and the stores taken by the gunners for working their guns, amount to about four tons and a half. The stores taken by the boatswain and carpenter to keep the ship and her rigging in working-order, weigh more than seventeen tons. Lastly, we have three tons and a half of powder, two tons and a half of shot, sixteen tons of cannon balls, two tons of shells, and two tons of musket-balls and small arms. If all this be added together, the reader will at once see that when our little vessel floated out of Sheerness Harbour to the North, she carried with her more than 200 tons of valuable property.

But as a friend of ours exclaimed when we were endeavouring to impress this upon him: "Where, in the name of all that is wonderful, can it all be put? How can you live amid such a heap of incongruous matter? Where do you all live? Where in the kitchen? Where do you sleep, and where do all the men sleep?"—These are all very natural questions, and it will require some little time to answer them.

To commence with the spaces "under hatches," as it is called, or beneath the floor of the deck on which men and officers live. Any one who knows the shape of a ship, will see, on a little reflection, that this space will be broad and deep in the centre, gradually becoming narrower and more shallow towards both head and stern. At the extreme after-end, there was a space for the captain's stores; and beneath this, the bread-room, capable of holding 100 bags of biscuit, each weighing a hundredweight. Then advancing forward, and beneath two of the officers' cabins, is the gun-room, where all the cloth and dark shoes, flannel hats, and other articles for men's clothing, are kept. Parallel with this, and beneath the gun-room, extending also some way into the centre of the broad-room, is the shell-room and magazine. Each of the shells is packed in a separate box, and treated with such care that no one felt uneasy, although sitting every day at meals with 110 of them only separated from his feet by a plank, with nearly three tons of powder in the magazine close by. In a space corresponding to the shell-room, on the opposite side, was the officers' store-room for provisions. Further forward, in the centre, are the lockers for shot, holding 1200 of these gentle persuaders of thirty-two pounds of solid iron. On either side of them, and of the shell-room, are holds for provisions and spirits. The nineteen tons of iron ballast are arranged just above the keel and round the lowest parts of the inside of the ship. Immediately upon these are the iron water-tanks, corresponding in shape to that of the vessel; those in the centre fitting square, those towards the sides curving at different angles. Six of the largest of these tanks hold each 600 gallons; two smaller ones, each 400 gallons; two of 200; twelve of 75; and eighteen of 110; making together forty tanks holding 11,580 gallons, or more than fifty tons.

These tanks occupy the central part of the ship, except a space reserved for the chain-cable and a small store of provisions for daily use. Further forward is a hold for the beef and pork, with another for coal and firing. Beyond this is the sail-room, where all the spare sails are kept; and, lastly, quite in the bows, the store-rooms, as they are called, but really the sort of dark cupboards where the boatswain and carpenter keep their stores. All this is under hatches—that is to say, a hatch must be raised to get into any of these spaces. A hatch in a square piece of the floor or deck cut out, so that it can be lifted by a ring, and furnished with locks, and so made so to keep all the lower part of the ship watertight, or nearly so.

Next comes the inhabited portion of the ship. Commencing as before, from the after-part, we had first two cabins for the captain, each extending the whole breadth of the ship. The after one was small; but with a couple of arm-chairs and a portable fireplace, was a perfect little snugger for him in winter, to lounge with a book or play some game at chess with one of us. The fore cabin was much longer. At one side, doors opened into a sleeping-cabin and a large cupboard, where the charts and chronometers are kept. At the other, was an open sofa-bed place and a cabin where the steward kept all the glass, crockery, &c., for the table. The open space of the ship was some seven paces by six, and between six and seven feet in height, being lighted by a skylight on deck. In the centre, was a large square table, where many a jolly party of eight or ten have sat down to a good dinner, and were given great. Some well-filled book-shelves, a writing-desk, and a few chairs, with a barometer and compass, completed the furniture.

Next came the gun-room, where the gun-room officers—namely, two lieutenants, master, surgeon, purser, and assistant-surgeon—were. This is also a square cabin, lighted by a skylight, six paces by five, of the same height as the captain's cabin, furnished simply with a square table, a few chairs, lockers for wine, which are converted into a sort of sofa by a cushion, and drawers and stands for the furniture of the table. At one side, are two cabins for the two lieutenants; at the other side, are doors opening into a narrow passage, which leads from the captain's cabin, past the gun-room, on to the lower-deck, and separates the gun-room from the cabins of the master, surgeon, purser, and assistant-surgeon; which correspond with those of the lieutenants on the opposite side of the ship, but are carried further forward. All these cabins are about six feet square. There is a bed-place with drawers beneath it, a wash-hand-stand, a flap which can be raised to form a table, book-shelves, a chair, and a chest of drawers; and this completes the home of each officer. Yet it is surprising how much is stowed away in so small a space, and how much taste is often displayed in setting off one's own particular corner of the ship to the best advantage. Pictures and looking-glasses, Turbans, ruffs and Greek hats, velvet and gilding, are all brought into play; yet room is still found for clothes and books, the cumbersome cases of uniform, gun-cases, telescope, sextant, and the curiosities picked up at different ports, to prove our remembrance of old friends when arriving again in England.

The midshipmen's berth is on the same side as the lieutenants' cabins, just about the main-hatch-way. It is merely a cabin some five paces square, nearly filled by a table, over which swings a lamp, and is lighted, like all the officers' cabins, by what are called blue-eye-pieces of glass let in through the deck. Around the table are square lockers, and on the top of these the midshipmen sit. Of course there is no room for chairs. Some shelves above receive the sextants, glasses, desks, and books; a recess is fitted up for crockery, and the berth is complete. In this we had two mates, five midshipmen, a clerk, and a master's assistant. None of these officers sleep in cabins, but are slung at night in hammocks like the men, in a part of the lower-deck, just outside their berth, where each has his chest arranged. In this chest he must keep the whole of his dress and property, and a drawer for his washing utensils.

The lower-deck, or the space where the seamen live, cook, eat, and sleep, was 54 feet long, 6 feet 6 inches in height between the beams, and 28 feet in breadth at the broadest part. In this case, 120 seamen had to find accommodation; not only for themselves, but for the galley or kitchen, and for all the mess-tables and stools—to live by day when not on deck, and to sleep by night. It was as well supplied with light and air as is any ship of the class, but still acceptable of improvement in these respects. Along each side a number of mess-tables are arranged, each capable of accommodating a dozen men, six on each side, seated on a stool of the length of the table. Shelves arranged on the sides of the ship receive the plates and "mess-guns," as the cookery of the men is called. There is a good deal of pride in the show the men make in this way, and a little rivalry between different messes. All along the beams are rows of hooks, fourteen inches apart, to which the hammocks are slung at night for the men to sleep in. The hammock is simply an oblong piece of canvas, with holes at each end, through which legs are passed, brought together, and the hammock thus hung to the hooks. It contains a hair mattress and pillow, and a blanket or two for the men, the officers adding the luxury of sheets. In the morning, every hammock is rolled up, tied into a fixed size and shape, and arranged

around the bulwarks of the ship, being uncovered in fine weather, but protected, when necessary, by a covering of tarpaulin. Thus there is no sign of a sleeping-place on the lower-deck during the day, all the hammocks being above.

The galley or kitchen would hardly puzzle a shore-cook. No fire is to be seen; no joints are seen roasting; all is enclosed in a square iron case; there a furnace below, surrounded by water, and into this space-pass of all shapes and sizes are let in—from the cauldron which boils the soup for the whole ship's company, to the sauce-pan for the officers' fish—all boiling, baking, roasting so called, toasting stewing for the meals of the captain, the two officers' messes, and the whole of the men, are thus done in an iron box some five feet square, and in many ships distilled water is prepared at the same time. In some of our large troop-ships, 500 gallons of distilled water are thus prepared every day.

Such was our craft below. On deck we had eighteen 22-pounders; and aloft, the usual sails of a three-masted, square-rigged vessel. This was our Flaming Oiler. We were now ready for sea; and, with the usual complement of officers and men, we sailed where our duty called us.

THE RUSSIAN HEDGEHOG—CAN WE GET AT HIM?

It becomes a most interesting question now, what is the power of Russia? Can the Emperor Nicholas, by standing in his guns and firing at everybody that ventures to come within range, beat back the steady advance of the powerful armament of the Western Powers? The question is not can we take Russia in the present state of the world, but can we prevent her from destroying the Russian strongholds in the Baltic, and from bombarding St. Petersburg? Most minds seem just now to be inflamed to the sanguine pitch, and most mental palates have become so feverish that they demand daily victories to be served up with the eggs and toast of the Times. Great impatience has seized the entire part of the public; the opposition, although they must know better, artfully increase the excitement, and people seem almost to think that we cannot only transmit the news of battles, but actually win them "by electric telegraph." They forget Russian forts, Russian cannon, and Russian armies; Russian fleets, it must be admitted, are out of the question. In fact, they forget that Russia is a great hedgehog, extremely difficult to handle; especially as your hedgehog, or porcupine, is made of rock and granite, and can launch forth not spurs, but heavy cannon-balls and explosive shells, whereas your manipulators are armed with wood and iron, capable of hitting hard also, but still unarmed.

Russia, as we have said, is a grim hedgehog, rolled up at present, prickles outwards, very formidable to see. Peter founded St. Petersburg on a shaly bog, and built a fort on the island of Cronstadt; Nicholas has converted the whole strait into a huge fortress; Alexander seized Finland, and captured Helsinki by treachery; and Nicholas makes of it "the Gibraltar of the North." So it is with the islands of Aland. He has attempted to make of them a padlock on the Gulf of Bothnia.

The object of war is to destroy or humble your enemy, so that he be for peace. In the present case, we view with just suspicion, and not without alarm for the freedom of the North, the vast military works, the huge robber castles which the Czar of Moscow has constructed about the Baltic; and it is through these very structures that lies the way to the heart of the foe. Take, for instance, the islands of Aland, commanding the entrance of the Gulf of Bothnia. The Czar has there a vast fortified casemated barracks, which presents 120 guns in two tiers to the roadstead, and commanding the passage of the strait called the Bomar Sound. The use of this, except as a constant menace and ever present danger to Stockholm, it is impossible to conceive. Again, Riga, a fortified city of the first class, but inspired by terror at the name of Napier, the fort commanding the Duna has been strengthened, and other defensive works begun. Revel is defended by three batteries, one mounting 62, another 96 guns, in casemates; but these forts do not properly support each other. The out-work of Cronstadt may be said to begin with the intricate navigation—the sand-banks, rocks, and islands from which all lights and beacons have been withdrawn—and to this must be added the fire of batteries placed in commanding positions. Sevastopol, where lie eight sail of line, a frigate, corvette, and three steamers of the Russian Baltic-fleet, is a most formidable fortress protecting Helsinki. There is a mile of works, not only defending the narrow entrance to the bay, but commanding some points of the mainland. In taking a fleet to St. Petersburg, it would be necessary to pass, ship by ship, first between two forts, one mounted with 110 guns, all in casemates, the other mounting nearly sixty guns; then Fort Peter, seventy six guns; after that Cronstadt, forty guns a fleur de Peau; a mole and several other works; and, lastly Fort Mesnikoff, looking straight down the channel. Now whether all these works are proof against the fire and manoeuvres of screw-ships of the line, led by a Napier, cannot be known without trial; and how many of our impatient folks, who hourly talk of the remoteness of Ministers in out of once battering Sebastopol and Cronstadt in pieces, will venture to suggest that it should be attacked rashly? It

has yet to be proved that steamers can do anything against stone walls, especially with modern gunnery; on the other hand, it is not impossible that some of these grim looking pieces at Sevastopol and Cronstadt may be unserviceable, and it is certain that the Russian coasts are very bad marksmen. Besides, generals of Foot command the fleets; and marine officers of certain rank wear spurs. Russia actually produces Home-martines!

There can be no doubt but that the Northern hedgehog will roll up and make itself as troublesome as possible. But there are more ways of inducing that appetite animal to "open up" than by employing the ungloried hand in the operation. If you handle your hedgehog into the water he rapidly opens up and exposes his weak points. At present Russia turns her bristling batteries upon us and trusts to her casemates; but she, too has her weak points. Behind these batteries, on either side, are the disaffected Finns and the disaffected people of the Baltic provinces. Why not handle Nicholas into the troubled waters of rebellion, and make him open up? Finns have something to remember—citizenship, a constitution, laws, literature, nay, even a history. They are the weak points of our spiky friend of the casemates. In the same way, and in a brief space, the people of Courland, Esthonia, and Livonia, if invited, may, perhaps, come to revolt. And if these people are too far gone in slavery, or too hard pressed by the soldiers of the Czar, there is still Poland—heroic Poland—whose burning nationality no power can quench and whose readiness to raise no one can question.

Still, it must be admitted that it is not at the outset of a war like the present that we can look for insurrections—if at all; and that so long as Austria and Prussia stand by armed, ready to strike at insurrections especially, the former in the east and south, the latter in the north, it is doubtful whether England is in a position to call forth the Poles. The same objection, however, does not apply to the Finns, who might not only win their former importance at the point of the sword, but ruin our fleets if we were not strong.

The main thing to be kept in mind in this war is not to expect too much, especially from the fleets in the Baltic, at least, as we have shown above, there are a few difficulties. Still difficulties are things to be overcome; and we can by no means admit that, whatever be its strength, it is impossible to take St. Petersburg. Will any one say, for instance, that if adequate terms were offered, a British company would not contract to seize St. Petersburg and deliver it up in a given time? Russia is strong, but not so strong that the most powerful of modern nations cannot reduce her to reason. If the real object of the war be to destroy the "blasting influence" which Lord Clarendon says, sweeps like a pestilence from the shaking bog of St. Petersburg over the nations of central Europe; if we be resolved to teach the barbarian to know his frontiers, and to arrest the course of the monarch who bullies Europe from behind his casemated bastions, then it is absurd to say that we cannot find the means. Should Napier and Paraval-Deschamps fail, as fall they may, Sweden, Norway, and Denmark must be called upon to lend their aid. If we need more, Germany can furnish a popular contingent to Italy. Remember, it is not for France or even England exclusively that we are contending but for European civilization. The modern Attilla must not succeed as his predecessor did; the South and West must repel the Northern hordes this time; upon that subject there must be no sort of doubt. Therefore, what means will accomplish this we are bound to resort to: neither overlooking the Poles and Finns on one flank, nor Circassians on the other. The conflict predicted by Napoleon may or may not have arrived, that Europe should be Republican or Cosack; but that conflict has begun in downright earnest which shall determine whether Europe is to be European or Russian, whether we Western people shall exist as a free community of powers, shamefully impotent as that confederacy is, or whether, plus existing imperfections, one power shall dominate over all the others.

Such being the nature of the contest, it is obvious that we must neither overrate our present strength, nor neglect such aid as can be had for the asking; nor enter into rash enterprises; nor, while we scrutinize our commanders and look keenly into the doings of our Ministers, must we expect too much from the former, or cultivate that spirit of vulgar impatience which betrays a want of grave self-reliance upon ourselves.—Leader.

DR. P. V. SMITH'S CONSISTENCY.—This great Christian and divine, when called at an advanced age to leave the world, displayed to the last that persistent firmness of attachment to his temperance principles which he had kept inviolate for nearly twenty years. A relative, in a narrative of events preceding his dissolution, writes:—"Alas his inflexible habit of abstinence yielded not. He might be said to exemplify the ruling passion strong in death." A medical friend, on perceiving a rapid diminution of power, recommended a slight infusion of brandy in the water beverage. This proposal being conveyed by writing to the eye of the Doctor, he turned to his wife and emphatically said, "Now; my dear, I charge you if such remedy be proposed when I am incompetent to refuse, let me die rather than swallow the liquid."—Memor., p. 627.

W. R. WATSON, General Agent for P. E. Island.